No. 4337.215

GIVEN BY

M. Jackson Crispin

The Crispins of Kingston-on-Hull

The Crispins of Kingston-on-Hull

4337.215

BY

M. JACKSON CRISPIN

LANCASTER
WICKERSHAM PRESS
MDCCCCXXVIII

1035

PUBLIC LIBRARY

Reprinted from the Publications of the Genealogical Society
of Pennsylvania, March, 1928

PUBLIC LIBRARY
OF THE
CITY OF BOSTON

THE CRISPINS OF KINGSTON-ON-HULL.

By M. Jackson Crispin of New York.

Captain William Crispin, one of the three commissioners appointed by William Penn for settling the Colony of Pennsylvania as well as to be its Chief Justice and Surveyor General, was born at Kingston-on-Hull, England. It would seem fitting therefore, to record in this publication some account of his immediate ancestors who there resided. His great-grandfather, John Crispin, was the first member of this branch of the family to settle in Kingston-on-Hull. That he brought with him considerable means is borne out by the fact that he immediately became one of the foremost citizens of the town, purchased property and became a ship owner. He was also a sea captain, an occupation followed by his descendants for at least two centuries, with but few exceptions; a circumstance which, to some extent, may account for the distinction which Captain William Crispin gained in the service of the Navy of the English Commonwealth.

Kingston-on-Hull, or Hull as it is more generally called, where Captain Crispin was born, is a very good example of the ancient maritime town, as despite modern improvements, many of the old narrow streets still exist, and in High Street especially, some very ancient houses may be seen today. The town was founded by Edward I, hence its name King's Town or Kingston-on-Hull, and it rose so rapidly, that by the reign

of Edward III, it supplied 16 ships and 466 men for the invasion of France, about two-thirds of the number supplied by London. Holy Trinity Church, Hull, is one of the largest parish churches in the Kingdom, being 272 feet in length. A Grammar School was founded in 1486, but unfortunately the old records no longer exist, though there can be little doubt that it was here Captain Crispin and his immediate ancestors received their education.

Charles I on his way to Scotland in March 1639 visited Hull. It was then a depot for arms and military stores, which, together with the fact that the town was very strongly fortified, and also of great natural strength, made it a place of considerable importance during the civil war; Hull, however, remained throughout in the hands of the Parliamentary forces. As will be seen, the outbreak of the Civil War was the cause of Captain Crispin and his father leaving their native town.

John Crispin, great-grandfather of Captain William Crispin, married at the church of Holy Trinity, Hull, on the 1st August, 1572, Ellen Shawe. Her parentage is not definitely known, but that she was a member of a substantial family of that name in Hull is obvious from the amount of property held by the Shawes in the heart of this important city, a portion of which afterwards passed to the Crispin family by purchase.

Anthony Shawe of Hull left three daughters and co-heiresses; Elizabeth, who married John Bellwood; Sarah, who married William Bower, and Anne, who married Alexander Metcalfe, all men of substance. Thus, they each became entitled to a third part of property called Shawes Garth, situated at the corner of High Street and Church Lane in Hull.

In 1588 John and Ellen Crispin purchased one-third of Shawes Garth. In 1591 they purchased another third part and on January 27, 1601/2, William Crispin, their eldest son, purchased the remaining part, so that the whole of the property passed to the Crispins. John and Ellen Crispin purchased considerable other property in Hull.

On 15 September, 1585, John Crispin became a Freeman of Hull.[1]

Very few people avoided being at some time cited before the Ecclesiastical Court, and in this John Crispin was no exception, for on Tuesday, 18 August 1590, he had to appear to answer for harbouring one of his servants, Elizabeth Gray, she being with child. He was, however, dismissed from the

[1] Guildhall, Hull, Burgess Roll, p. 108.

case because she " was put forth of his house so sone as it was known ".[1]

From " Sketches of old Hull ",[2] which purport to have been extracts from a family diary commenced in 1640, it is learned that " the bettermost folk " had their mansions in High Street, which is also called Hull Street, where they took up their residence and kept their coaches. Among those who lived in High Street were Sir John Elland, who was knighted by Henry VIII on his visit to Hull; Sir John Lister; John Dalton, three times mayor, and Amos Barffe, who started the coaches to London.

John Crispin made his will on 1 December, 1591; he must then have been on his death bed, for he was buried on the 7th of the same month; it was proved on the 13 February following. He made donations for the poor of Hull and for repairs of Holy Trinity Church. He only mentioned one of his children, Amos, to whom he made a minor bequest, and the residue of his estate he gave to his wife, whom he appointed guardian of his children.[3]

Exactly nine months after the burial of John Crispin, on 7 August, 1592, his widow married Thomas Mall or Maull at Holy Trinity Church, by license; by whom she does not appear to have had any children. Thomas Maull was a master mariner, and one of the younger brethren of Trinity House; [4] he was admitted to the Freedom of Hull on 7 September, 1592.[5] From a Town Rental dated 20 October, 1626, it would appear that he was Gilt Mace Bearer to the Corporation.[6]

On 7 February, 1616/7, Thomas Maull, with his step-son William Crispin and John White as sureties, entered into a bond to the Corporation of Hull.[7] This was for part of a bequest left to some children and placed in the hands of the mayor and corporation during their minority. The bond was renewed in August of the same year, William Crispin, with his son William and John Mounsey being sureties.[8]

Thomas Maull died about this time, for on 24 May, 1632,

[1] York Diocesan Registry, Visitation Book, 1590.

[2] By Thomas Johnson.

[3] York Probate Registry, Vol. 23, f. 800.

[4] Trinity House, Hull, Admission Book.

[5] Guildhall, Hull, White Book, p. 133.

[6] *Ibid.*, Town Rental, 1626.

[7] *Ibid.*, Bench Book, p. 25.

[8] Guildhall, Hull, Bench Book.

Rober Byleth was appointed "Guilt Macebearer" in the place of Mr. Thomas Maull, late deceased.[1]

Ellen, described as Hellen Maull, widow of John Crispin, made her will "with the consent of her husband", a necessary precaution in those days, on 3 July, 1615, and which for some reason was not proved until 1 November, 1641.[2] It deals almost entirely with the third part of the messuage already referred to, as being purchased of John and Elizabeth Bellwood, which was the only portion of the property she had the right to dispose of to her children in such proportions as she thought fit.

This bequest led to a Chancery Suit which gives considerable family history.

John and Ellen (Shawe) Crispin had issue:

2. i. WILLIAM, baptized at Holy Trinity, Hull, on 18 July, 1573; buried there on 23 April, 1636.
3. ii. SAMUEL, baptized at Holy Trinity, Hull, on 17 March, 1575/6; died circa 1620.
4. iii. AMOS, died circa 1620.
5. iv. NATHANIEL, baptized at Holy Trinity, Hull, on 30 May, 1585; buried there on 7 July, 1613.
   v. JUDITH, baptized at Holy Trinity, Hull, on 22 January, 1575/6. She may have been a daughter of John and Ellen, not baptized until some considerable time after birth. There is no further reference to her.

2. WILLIAM CRISPIN, eldest son of John and Ellen (Shawe) Crispin, was baptised at Holy Trinity, Hull, on 18 July, 1573. He married there, 16 March, 1595/6, Alice Colson, a member of an old and prominent Hull family, by whom he had several children.

On 22 February, 1598/9 he was admitted a Burgess of Hull. Later, on 14 August, 1604, he was admitted to the Brotherhood of Trinity House, Hull.[3]

It was this William Crispin who purchased the last third part of Shawes Garth in 1601/2, already referred to.

In an undated Rental, probably of the reign of Charles I, is the following entry: "Itm of the heires of Gregorie Shaw for Tenemte" lying together att the Southeast corner in Church lane in the tenure of William Crispin and others late Gregories Lands paid by Richard Wilson . . . . oo.xvij^{s} vj^{d}. Thus we get the actual position of Shawes Garth. "Gregorie" is evidently a mistake for "Anthonie".[4]

[1] *Ibid.*

[2] York Probate Registry, Original Will.

[3] Book of Brethren of Trinity House.

[4] Public Record Office, Rentals and Surveys, 748 and 749.

He is next found, together with his wife Alice, selling a messuage in Hull to Elizabeth Marshall, widow, and John Marshall, in 1616.[1] There is, unfortunately, no indication as to where this property was situated. The original agreement bears a very good signature of William Crispin.[2] In the writ, which was issued in the name of the King is the somewhat curious, though usual clause, "and therefore as we hear the same William and Alice are powerless and not able to labour to Westminster without danger to their bodies . . . . We compassionating the state of the same William and Alice in this part have given power to you five, four, three or two of you to receive the acknowledgements which the aforesaid William and Alice . . . wish to make of the messuage aforesaid."

On 5 July of the following year William Crispin, with his brother Amos, witnessed the will of Gregory Hutton of Hull, merchant.[3] On 1 July, 1603, he appeared as a Juror.

In the Port Books numerous references have been found to ships commanded, and goods imported by him.

He was master of the *Thomas* and arrived at Hull from Newcastle in April, 1599, with a cargo which was his own property,[4] and made numerous similar voyages.

On 10 April, 1609, he was exporting goods to Lisbon in the *Desire* of Hull,[5] and, on 21 April, importing a cargo from Bordeaux in the *Brave* of Hull.[5] On 8 July following, as master of the *Greyhound* of Hull, he arrived at Bridlington, from Holland.[5]

The next known of him was, on 6 January, 1618/9, when he imported Spanish wine in the *Flower of Comfort* of Hull.[7] In the same month he made a voyage to Spain in command of the *Dolphin* of Hull, and brought back a cargo of leaf tobacco for his own account.[6]

In June, 1622, he commanded the *Grace* of Hull, when he reached home after a voyage to Amsterdam, bringing a cargo of wine and rye.[7] As owner of the *Greyhound* on 8 May, 1627, he filed a Bill of Complaint in the Court of Chancery against Israell Dodsworth and Thomas Beckwithe, merchants

[1] Feet of Fines, cities and towns, Hilary, 14 James I.
[2] Concord of Fines, Hilary, 14 James I.
[3] York Probate Registry, Vol. 34, f. 615.
[4] Port Books, bdle. 310, book 8.
[5] *Ibid.*, bdle. 312, book 6.
[6] *Ibid.*, bdle. 312, book 14.
[7] *Ibid.*, bdle. 315, book 3.

of York, by which it appears that in April, 1626, they had chartered the *Greyhound* for a voyage to Gottenburgh, in Sweden, and back to Hull for which they had failed to reimburse him. The last record of this ship is on the 16 November, 1627, when she took a cargo to London.[1]

No further references are found to William Crispin commanding a ship, but there is an inquiry made in 1634 concerning exports from the haven of Hull, and, although some hundreds of witnesses were called before the Commissioners, he did not give evidence, but his son William Crispin was examined at some length.[2]

The suit in the Court of Chancery already referred to, chiefly concerns him, but lack of space prevents the recitation.

The Subsidy Rolls for Hull are in very poor condition, there being no good returns for the reigns of Elizabeth and James I. During that of Charles I, William Crispin appears in the returns of 1623/4, 1627/8 and 1628/9 as being assessed for taxes on land. In a roll dated 15 September, 1635, he is assessed for the fitting out of two ships of war to be supplied to the King by Hull.[3]

Alice, wife of William Crispin, died before her husband, and was buried at Holy Trinity, Hull, on 26 May, 1632. Shortly afterwards he married Anne, but her surname has not been discovered. He had no known children by her.

After the death of William Crispin, Anne, his widow, married Leonard Kellam or Kelham, a mariner of Hull, the license being dated 1638, and in it, Anne is described as aged 40 of St. Sampson, York, where the marriage was to take place.

William Crispin made his will on 29 June, 1633. He died in 1636, and was buried at Holy Trinity, Hull, on 23 April, his will being proved on 7 May following.[4] In it he desired to be buried " where it shall please God ". He then gave to his son, William, one King Edward shilling in full satisfaction of his filial portion; the reason for this bequest will be shown later. To Ann his wife he gave the messuage in the tenure of Thomas Cotesfurth, which adjoined his own home, being formerly Shawes Land, for life, and after her death to his

[1] Port Books, bdle. 316, book 5.

[2] Exchequer Special Commissions, 6015.

[3] Guildhall, Hull, Assessment Roll.

[4] York Probate Registry, Original Will.

son John and his heirs, and for want of issue to his son Alexander. Another property in Shawes Yard, he bequeathed to his son, John, with remainder to Alexander. To his wife Ann he gave the remainder of his estate with minor bequests to servants, etc. This will was witnessed by George Carlill, William Fletcher and Robert Thorpe.

On the day after he signed his will he added the following interesting note: "Let no man think wrong of me. In the making of this my last will and Testament because I give to my son William but one King Edward shilling the reason is that his wife has always been false to me and never true. If I could do less for her sake I would do so but the law prevents so I cease this xxxth daie of June, 1633."

William and Alice (Colson) Crispin had the following children, all baptised at Holy Trinity, Hull,—

i. WILLIAM, baptized 16 May, 1598; buried 9 May, 1599.
6. ii. WILLIAM, baptized 23 October, 1602; buried at Carrickfergus, Ireland, 9 April, 1645.
iii. ADAM, baptized 5 February, 1603/4.
7. iv. ALEXANDER, baptized 18 August, 1605.
8. v. JOHN, baptized 19 December, 1610; buried 4 November, 1639.
vi. SUSANNA, baptized 2 December, 1596; buried 13 September, 1599.
vii. ELLEN, baptized 1 April, 1609; buried 21 August, 1610.

3. SAMUEL CRISPIN, second son of John and Ellen (Shawe) Crispin, was baptised at Holy Trinity, Hull, 17 March, 1575/6. He married Rachel Backhouse, at Holy Trinity, 13 July, 1601.

He was admitted to the Freedom of Hull 26 May, 1601,[1] and on 17 September, 1604, he became a younger brother of Trinity House.[2]

He was a sea captain and commanded the *Effam and John* on a voyage to Danzke [Dansig], returning to Hull 27 April, 1613. On the 15th of the next month he sailed again to Danzke.[3]

It is not known when he died, probably about 1620. Administration of his estate was granted to Rachel, his widow, 23 November, 1621.[4] She was buried at Holy Trinity, Hull, 1 April, 1633, but left no will.

[1] Guildhall, Hull, Bench Book, f. 164.
[2] Trinity House, Hull, Admission Roll.
[3] Port Books, bdle. 313, book 5.
[4] York Probate Registry, Harthill Deanery.

Samuel and Rachel (Backhouse) Crispin had issue:

i. JOHN, the only surviving son, was baptized at Holy Trinity, Hull, on 1 August, 1602. He was also a mariner, and was on board the *Amitie* with his uncle, William Crispin, in 1633, on a voyage to Cadiz.[1] He was admitted to the Freedom of Hull on 8 March, 1631/2.[2] Sarah, widow of his uncle Amos Crispin, by her will, dated 5 December, 1638, made bequests to him, his wife and children.[3] John Crispin and Elizabeth his wife had three daughters: 1. *Dorothy*, baptized at Hull 30 April, 1632. 2. *Elizabeth*. 3. *Rachel*, baptized 4 September, 1638, and buried 14 October, 1639.

ii. JAMES, baptized at Holy Trinity, Hull, 13 January, 1604/5; buried there 14 April, 1605.

iii. THOMAS, baptized at Holy Trinity, Hull, 11 December, 1608; buried there 1 October, 1609.

4. AMOS CRISPIN, no record of his baptism has been found, but he was probably the third son of John and Ellen (Shawe) Crispin. On 20 December, 1601, Amos, son of John Crispin, was admitted to the Freedom of Hull;[4] and in 1611, he appears to have been admitted to the Freedom of the Company of Merchants of Kingston-upon-Hull.[5] Unfortunately the Court Book (1577-1660) is missing, so no further details can be obtained.

No reference has been found of him having gone to sea. In the Port Books there is reference to him, on 8 February, 1602/3, as having imported in the *Primrose* of London, three hogsheads of wine from Bordeaux.[6]

He married at Holy Trinity, 17 October, 1602, Sarah, daughter of William Ward, presumably an only child.

The Wards appear to have held property outside Hull, for in 1606 Amos and Sarah Crispin, with Anne Ward and Richard Hill and Anne his wife, sold a house and lands in Bradford, co. York, to William Walker and Thomas Craven. This was evidently property belonging to the Wards, in which Amos was interested in right of his wife.[7]

In 1609 Amos and Sarah purchased a messuage in Hull from George and Thomas Thompson.[8] It is probably the same property that they sold to Henry Thompson and Mary his

[1] Special Commission, 6015.

[2] Guildhall Bench Book, f. 290.

[3] York Probate Registry.

[4] Guildhall, Bench Book, f. 164.

[5] Guildhall, Index to Court Book of the Company of Merchants.

[6] Port Books, bdle. 311, book 11.

[7] Feet of Fines, Yorks., Easter, 4 James I.

[8] Ibid., Cities and Towns, Trinity, 7 James I.

wife in 1617.[1] On the original agreement appears a very excellent signature of Amos Crispin, which shows him to have been a man of good education.[2]

Amos, with his brother William, witnessed the will of Gregory Hutton, merchant of Hull, on 5 July, 1617.[3]

Arthur Lancaster of Hull, who had married Isabell Ward, aunt of Sarah Crispin, made his will on 17 March, 1617/8,[4] by which he made a bequest to his godson William, son of Amos Crispin. This is the only reference to a son William, but he evidently did not survive. Isabell, the widow of the above Arthur Lancaster, made her will on 18 February, 1636/7, proved 5 June, 1637 [5] and made a bequest to Ann Richardson, daughter of her niece, Sarah Crispin, who was daughter of her late brother William Ward. She also gave to Sarah Crispin the house in which she lived in the Market Place in Hull, with all stables and other appurtenances for her life, with remainder to her daughter Ann Richardson and her heirs. She also gave to Sarah other minor legacies. The rest of her goods were to be divided equally between Sarah and Ann, and she appointed them joint executrices.

No entry appears in the parish register of the burial of Amos, but he must have died in, or about, 1620, as in the Chancery Suit already quoted, his daughter Anne, who was born in 1615, states that she was about 4 years old when he died. Administration of his estate was granted to his widow 7 August, 1621.[6]

Sarah Crispin was living in High Street in 1635, as, on 15 September of that year, she paid a tax towards fitting out two ships of war, ordered to be supplied by Hull, which were to be at Portsmouth, 1 March, following.[7]

She was buried at Holy Trinity, 1 March, 1638/9. She made a large number of bequests to the poor, the clergy, her relatives and friends.

It is uncertain how many children were born to Amos and Sarah Crispin. Although married in 1602, the only records

[1] Feet of Fines, Cities and Towns, Hilary, 14 James I.

[2] Concords of Fines, Hilary, 14 James I.

[3] York Probate Registry, vol. 34, p. 615.

[4] *Ibid.*, vol. 35, p. 200.

[5] *Ibid.*, Original Will.

[6] York Probate Registry, Administrations, Harthill Deanery.

[7] Guildhall, Hull, Assessment Roll.

of their children in the Hull registers are to a daughter Anne, baptised in 1615, and a son Benjamin, baptised on 19 January, 1616/7 and buried there on 29th of the same month. Possibly they lived elsewhere during the early part of their married life, since another son, William, was mentioned in the will of Arthur Lancaster.

Amos and Sarah (Ward) Crispin had issue, order uncertain:

i. ANNE, the daughter of Amos and Sarah, was baptized at Hull on 10 June, 1615. She married, first, John Richardson, mariner of Hull, at Holy Trinity, 15 June, 1636. In the license she is described as of St. John, Beverly. He did not long survive, for administration of his goods was granted to his widow, 2 August, 1638.[1] She married, secondly, 31 January, 1638/9, Robert Pease of Hull, by whom she left issue. As Ann Pease, she was the defendant in the Chancery Suit already quoted.
ii. BENJAMIN, buried 29 January, 1616/7.
iii. WILLIAM, living 17 March, 1617/8.

5. NATHANIEL CRISPIN, fourth and youngest son of John and Ellen (Shawe) Crispin, was baptised at Holy Trinity, Hull, 30 May, 1585. Little is known of him as he had but a short career.

His parents purchased a third of Shawes Garth for his use after their death, when he was only three years of age, and, Ellen, his mother, with her second husband, released her right therein to him in 1596. This part of the property passed, on his death without issue, to his brother, William Crispin.

On the 28th September, 1609, he was admitted to the Freedom of Hull by Patrimony.[2]

He married, first, at Holy Trinity, on 16 January, 1611/2, Maudlin, daughter of William Johnson, who was baptised at Hull, 30 November, 1583, and was buried on 24 October, 1612. Her father, William Johnson, was a master mariner of Hull, who died during his daughter's short married life, having made his will on 2 June, 1612; proved 31 October, following,[3] by which he constituted her and her brothers, John and Josias, executors and residuary legatees.

Nathaniel Crispin married, secondly, Alice Cowke, on 19 May, 1613. He died shortly after, being buried on 7 July following, and administration of his estate was granted to his widow on the 28th of the same month.[4]

[1] York Probate Registry, Administrations, Harthill.

[2] Guildhall, Bench Book.

[3] York Probate Registry, vol. 32, f. 209.

[4] York Probate Registry, Administrations, Harthill Deanery.

6. William Crispin, eldest surviving son of William and Alice (Colson) Crispin, and father of Captain William Crispin, was baptised at Hull on 23 October, 1602.

He married at Hull, 14 December, 1626, Elizabeth Harrison, daughter of Robert Harrison who married Elizabeth Johnson at St. Mary, Hull, 11 March, 1599/1600. Robert Harrison died soon after his daughter's marriage, and administration of his estate was granted to his widow 18 June, 1628.[1] Elizabeth Johnson was daughter of John Johnson of Hull, and Ann his wife. John Johnson was admitted to the Freedom of Hull on 28 September, 1592,[2] and died in 1612; when Letters of Administration were granted to his widow and daughter.[3] His widow, Ann Johnson, made her will on 7 May, 1628, proved 21 July, 1630,[4] by which she left substantial sums to her daughter, Elizabeth Harrison, who was appointed executor and residuary legatee. She also made a minor bequest to " William Crispin, son of my grandchild Elizabeth now wife of William Crispin, younger, mariner ". She made other small bequests to the vicar of Holy Trinity, and to the poor. Her son-in-law William Crispin was a witness to this will.

William Crispin was admitted to the Freedom of Hull on 15 May, 1628.[5] As already stated, he was surety for a bond entered into by his father to the Corporation.

In the inquiry concerning the exports from Hull, before referred to, William Crispin was called as a witness before the Commissioners, and gave evidence on 20 September, 1634, which is too voluminous to quote here.[6] There are some very interesting references to William Crispin in the evidence of several of the witnesses: Thomas Richardson states that he sailed with William Crispin in the *Freedom* from Hull to Mallingoe, in Spain, " somewhat before Xmas in the yeare 1630 it being about the time of the conclusion of the peace betwixt his majtie and the Kinge of Spaine ".

There are also numerous references to him commanding the *Adventure*, a ship of 120 tons, but more definite information is to be gleaned from the Port Books,[7] showing some of the

[1] York Probate Registry, Administrations, Harthill.

[2] Bench Book, f. 119.

[3] York Probate Registry, Administration Act Book.

[4] *Ibid.*, vol. 41, p. 109.

[5] Guildhall, Hull, Bench Book, f. 265.

[6] Exchequer Special Commission, No. 6015.

[7] Port Books, bdle 316, book 12.

voyages he made. He first appears as master of the *Adventure* on 2 August, 1631, when he sailed from Hull for Hamburgh with a cargo of lead. In the following November he arrived at Hull from Amsterdam, with a cargo. He afterwards made numerous voyages in the *Adventure* to Gottenburgh, Bordeaux, Amsterdam, Danzig, to Norway, Holland and Newcastle, until the end of 1634.[1]

The last entry in the Port Books to him as master of the *Adventure* was on 29 December, 1634, when he paid customs duty on woolen cloth he intended to carry to Holland.[2] About that time a Royal Proclamation was issued forbidding the export of woolen and other goods to Amsterdam; but the fact that he had such a lading came to the ears of the Privy Council, who immediately sent an order to the authorities at Hull concerning the matter. The consequence was that the Customar, Comptroller and Searcher wrote to the Company of Merchant Adventurers of Hull, announcing their intention of preventing the ship from sailing.[3]

On 29 January, 1635/6, he was in command of the *Endeavour* of Hull, when he sailed to London. In 1636 he made several voyages to London.[4]

It has already been shown that William Crispin was cut off by his father with the proverbial one shilling, which must have affected him financially and led to unpleasantness in the family. This may have been the reason for his disposal of his Hull property.

In 1638 he and his wife sold a messuage to the Revd. Richard Parrott, vicar of Hull.[5] On the original agreement there are very good signatures of both William and Elizabeth Crispin; and also that of his brother, John Crispin, " gentleman ", who was one of the Commissioners appointed to take their acknowledgment.[6] In 1641 William and Elizabeth Crispin, the Rev. Richard Parrott and Dorothy his wife, sold a messuage to Anne Bileth, widow.[7] That is, probably, the same property sold in 1638, and he and his wife joined in the conveyance for the purpose of giving a better title, or, possibly, in the first instance it was conveyed to Parrott in trust only.

[1] Ibid., bdle. 317, books 5, 6, 7.

[2] Ibid., bdle. 317, book 10.

[3] State Papers, Domestic, Charles I, vol. 284, no. 14.

[4] Port Books, bdle. 317, book 14.

[5] Feet of Fines, Mich., 14 Charles I.

[6] Concord of Fines, Mich., 14 Charles I.

[7] Feet of Fines, Mich., 17 Charles I.

It was about this time that William Crispin and his family removed permanently from Hull.

In 1642 came the outbreak of the Civil War, and William Crispin threw his lot with the Parliamentary Party, when such men as he, were needed to manage the fleet then being raised against the King. He was appointed Master of the *Fellowship* of 28 guns, commanded by Captain (afterwards Admiral) Sir William Penn, then in the Irish Channel. This squadron was under the command of Captain Richard Swaley. But Captain Crispin did not long survive, he having either been killed, or died on the ship, as is shown by the following entries in Penn's Journal:

> "1645, April 8, about 3 o'clock in the morning, our Master, William Crispin, departed out of this World."
>
> "1645, April 9, about 2 o'clock in the afternoon, we carried our Master ashore and gave him ten pieces of ordinance, and we buried him in the chancel of the church of Carrickfergus" [Ireland].[1]

Administration on his estate was granted to his widow Elizabeth, 16 July, 1645,[2] who was then living at Stepney co., Middlesex.

William and Elizabeth (Harrison) Crispin had so far as known but one child:

9. i. WILLIAM, baptized at Holy Trinity, Hull, 3 October, 1627. As elsewhere shown, he was destined to hold high commands in the Navy of the Commonwealth; important appointments on land under Charles II, and, to become the founder of the Crispin family of America. He married, first, 22 September, 1652,[3] Rebecca, daughter of Ralph Bradshaw by his wife, Rachel Penn, sister of Admiral Sir William Penn and daughter of Captain Giles Penn. By this marriage he had five children: *William,*[4] *Silas, Rebecca, Ralph* and *Rachel.* Captain William Crispin married secondly, in 1665, at Kinsale, co. Cork, Ireland, Jane, daughter of Thomas Cudleigh of that town, and by this union had seven children, for whom William Penn by free gift set apart three thousand acres in Pennsylvania: *James, Joseph, Benjamin, Jane, Eleanor, Elizabeth* and *Amy.*

Captain Crispin's descent in detail from this point back to his Norman ancestors will be published at a later date.

7. ALEXANDER CRISPIN, fourth, but second surviving, son of William and Alice (Colson) Crispin,[4] was baptised at Holy Trinity, Hull, on 18 August, 1605.

[1] This discovery was made by Albert Cook Myers.

[2] Commissary Court of London, Administration Act Book, f. 174.

[3] Published records, Church of St. Stephany, co. Middlesex; Dugdale's Visitation of Lancashire, 1664-5.

[4] Baptized 24 June, 1653, at St. Olave, London; probably died young.

He was a master mariner and settled in Scarborough, co. York, where he married Dorcas Somercotes on 4 December, 1626. In the marriage license, however, he is described as of Holy Trinity, Hull. Dorcas was the only daughter of Andrew Somercotes of Alford, co. Lincoln, where she was baptised on 13 December, 1604. She had a brother Luke, baptised there on 8 October, 1607. The family evidently moved to Scarborough, as Luke Somercotes also resided there. Their father, Andrew was son of Christopher Somercotes of Bilsby, co. Lincoln, who married Anne, daughter of Augustine Massingberd of Bratoft in the same country, descended from one of the eldest families in Lincolnshire. Christopher's father, William Somercotes, married Jane, daughter of Sir Peter Hildyard, knight, of Winestead, co. York, a member of another very ancient family.[1]

Richard Dance of Scarborough, gentleman, in his will dated 4 December, 1627, proved 28 October, 1630,[2] bequeathed to Dorcas Crispin " my goulde rings ".

It must have been Alexander Crispin who witnessed the will of Francis Ducke of Scarborough in February, 1644/5, but unfortunately the christian name has been torn off.[3]

The Chancery Suit in which Alexander was plaintiff, shows that he inherited at least two-thirds of Shawes Garth. It seems from the records that there were other properties in Hull to which he laid claim but of which lack of space prevents recital.

In 1636 he was in command of the *Desire* of Scarborough, where he arrived in May from Sunderland, with a cargo.[4]

Though he lived in Scarborough, his children appear to have returned to Hull.

Records show that Alexander Crispin was alive in 1659, but the date of his death, and that of his wife are not known; neither do either of them appear to have left wills.

Unfortunately the early parish registers of Scarborough are missing, but a few references have been obtained from the Bishop's Transcripts, which, with the wills of his children, gives what is probably a complete record of his immediate family.

Alexander and Dorcas (Somercotes) Crispin had issue:

[1] Maddison's Lincolnshire Pedigree, p. 906, Harl. Soc.

[2] York Probate Registry, vol. 41, p. 223.

[3] York Probate Registry, Original Will.

[4] Port Books, bdle. 317, book 14.

i. WILLIAM, baptized on October 8, 1627, within a week of his cousin William, and buried on 21st of the same month.
10. ii. SAMUEL, will proved 10 February, 1668/9.
11. iii. JOHN, baptized on 4 March, 1636/7.
12. iv. NATHANIEL, baptized 22 September, 1638.
v. DORCAS, baptized on 7 August, 1634.
vi. MARY, buried on 17 September, 1635.

8. JOHN CRISPIN, youngest son of William and Alice (Colson) Crispin, was baptised at Holy Trinity, Hull, on 19 December, 1610. He was an attorney at law.

In 1631/2 Mr. Foxley was Town Clerk of Hull, and, owing to his " infirmity of Body, it was agreed that John Crispin," a tounsman, shalbe enterteyned to be Assistant to the said Towne Clarke in all businesses touchinge that office, and for attending Mr. Maior daily out of Tearme time for the better ease of the Towne Clarke.

On the 19 April, 1623, he was instructed to travel to London with certain deeds touching the election of an Escheator and his office.[1]

John Crispin had " solicited " some business on behalf of the town against Farmery and Wolfe concerning lands called Pinders in Hull.[1]

On Thursday 10 January, 1632/3, he was ordered to take a copy of the charter of the ferry from Barton, and also to search for the grant of the ferry to the town.[1]

On 20 June, 1633, he was ordered to move the Lord Chief Baron to take the town in his circuit at the next assizes; and if he did not take that circuit to send the " Auntienter " Judge who should do so. He was also to procure the King's writ for the removal of Michael Hatherwicke, who had killed Ralph Leeke, from York Castle to Hull.[1]

John Crispin was ordered to take another journey to London on 21 April, 1634, with maps of the town and other documents. By the 29th May he had returned and handed back the documents.[1]

Robert Pawlett and Oliver Lloyd, Commissioners for enquiring into exports of Hull, sent a warrant for causing owners of ships and masters and mariners to appear before them on 3 October, 1634. John Crispin was sent by the Mayor to desire them to bring or send their commission, as was usual. This was evidently the inquiry already referred to, in which his brother William Crispin gave evidence.[1]

On 16 April, 1635, he was ordered to take various documents

[1] Guildhall Bench Book.

to London in connection with the action against Farmerie, and on 20 August following he had to travel to London to deliver letters to the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty concerning a ship of war and men left at Hull by Capt. Povey and other officers.[1]

John Crispin does not appear to have been married. He was buried at Hull on 4 November, 1639, and administration of his estate was granted to John Dennys of Hull, 12 June, 1640.[2] It is curious that one of his brothers did not act in the capacity of Administrator.

10. Samuel Crispin, eldest surviving son of Alexander and Dorcas (Somercotes) Crispin lived in Hull. He was a Master mariner, and on 18 August, 1660, appeared before the Warden, Elder Brethren and Assistants of Trinity House, and on being examined was found " sufficient " to command any ship from Humber to Yarmouth Road, and so to the Naze, (Norway) and was thereupon sworn and admitted a brother.[3]

He married, first, at Hull on 2 December, 1656, Mary Finley; and, secondly, at Hull, on 30 January, 1658/9, Mary, daughter of John Harrison.

From his will, made on 8 December, 1668, proved 10 February, following,[4] it would appear that he was in possession of Shawes Garth, as well as other property in Hull, and at Wighton Carr, all which he gave to his wife Mary until his son Joseph was twenty-one years of age. To his wife he gave all interest in his own ship the *Friends Adventure,* and his interest in four other ships to his daughters Dorcas, Alice and Mary. His brothers John and Nathaniel were appointed trustees.

Besides the children mentioned in his will, he also had a son Samuel who died young.

11. John Crispin, second surviving son of Alexander and Dorcas (Somercotes) Crispin, was admitted a Freeman of Hull on 21 July, 1664,[5] and a younger brother of Trinity House, on 9 February, 1662/3, when he was found fit to command a ship to Rotterdam and elsewhere.[6]

[1] Guildhall Bench Book.

[2] York Probate Registry, Administrations, Harthill.

[3] Trinity House, Admission Book.

[4] Prerogative Court of Canterbury, Coke 14.

[5] Guildhall, Bench Book, f. 70.

[6] Trinity House, Admission Book.

On 1 September, 1673, he was chosen a Steward of Trinity House for a year,[1] an assistant on 21 March, 1673/4 by ballot,[2] and an elder brother on 3 October, 1679.[3] In the following year, 1 September, 1680, he was elected a Warden, but died during his term of office.[4]

In 1673 he complained to the House of certain seamen, who had mutined by refusing to do their work and threatening him. They were found guilty of the "high nature of what the maister layes to their charge" and were fined.[5]

He married at Holy Trinity, Hull, in February, 1658/9, Elizabeth Robinson of Stainton Daile in the parish of Scalby, co. York.

He made his will on 29 September, 1680, proved 21 February, following,[6] by which he left his house in Lowgate or Mannour Side, Hull, and his lands in Cloughton to his wife for life, with reversion to his son William. On January 3rd, 1681, a large silver Spanish cup with cover was presented by his widow to the Trinity Brethren of Hull and is still in their possession. His wife Elizabeth made her will on 14 April, 1684, proved 16 June, 1684,[7] by which, after various bequests to her own family, she gave the remainder of her estate to her son William, who was then a mariner.

John and Elizabeth (Robinson) Crispin had the following children, baptised at Holy Trinity, Hull:

i. Richard, baptized 21 November, 1659; buried 21 February, 1659/60.
ii. John, baptized 16 February, 1660/1; buried 31 December, 1664.
iii. William, baptized 26 April, 1662, who survived.
iv. Ann, baptized 1 July, 1663; buried 12 January, 1663/4.
v. Elizabeth, buried 3 January, 1669/70.

12. Nathaniel Crispin, youngest son of Alexander and Dorcas (Somercotes) Crispin, was also a master mariner of Hull, and was admitted a brother of Trinity House on 24 August, 1676.[8]

The records of Trinity House disclose an interesting reference to Nathaniel Crispin. On 23 January, 1670/1, he

[1] Trinity House, Order Book, p. 61.
[2] *Ibid.*, p. 71.
[3] *Ibid.*, p. 103.
[4] *Ibid.*, p. 111.
[5] *Ibid.*, p. 84.
[6] York Probate Registry, vol. 58, p. 241.
[7] *Ibid.*, vol. 60, p. 237.
[8] Trinity House, Admission Book.

was disfranchised, because he, and others of Hull, " deserted this howse and made themselves subjects to the Crowne of Sweden " as they themselves affirmed. Thus, by paying less custom in that country, they took away the trade of Hull.[1]

On the same day Peter Roe entered a complaint against Nathaniel Crispin for damages done to his ship in Hull Haven, which he was awarded.[2]

Nathaniel Crispin did not settle in Sweden, for in his will made 27 January, 1687/8,[3] he describes himself as of Hull. The whole document which is in his handwriting is extremely interesting. He gave to his sons Samuel and John his house and garden; to his sons Nathaniel and Amos his land and house at Demblenton and Esointon, and to his son William property in Paul, Hull and Scarborough. He was evidently a man of some note, for, amongst other plate, he gave to his sons a silver tankard given him by the owners of the vessels he then commanded and a tankard and plate given him by Mr. Gelbard Hethcote, *i. e.* Sir Gilbert Heathcote,[4] bart., first Governor of the Bank of England, and Lord Mayor of London.

Nathaniel Crispin and Susanna his wife had issue:

i. SAMUEL, baptized at Hull, 19 May, 1669; named in father's will.
ii. NATHANIEL, baptized at Hull, 30 September, 1670; buried there 2 October, 1670.
iii. JOHN, baptized at Hull, 15 November, 1671; named in father's will.
iv. NATHANIEL, baptized at Hull, 26 January, 1675/6; named in father's will.
v. AMOS, named in father's will.
vi. WILLIAM, named in father's will.
vii. ELIZABETH, buried at Hull, 8 October, 1678.

[1] Trinity House, Order Book, p. 44.

[2] *Ibid.*

[3] York Probate Registry, original will.

[4] Brother of Colonel Caleb Heathcote who held high office in the Colony of New York almost consecutively from 1692 until his decease in 1721. He was mayor of New York from 1711 until 1714, during which time his brother was Lord Mayor of London.

To All and Singular To whom these Presents shall come Sir Henry Turnham Parke Knight Commander of the Royal Victorian Order Companion of the Most Honourable Order of the Bath Garter Principal King of Arms Arthur William Stuart Cochrane Esquire Member of the Royal Victorian Order Clarenceux King of Arms and Gerald Wood Wollaston Esquire Member of the Royal Victorian Order Norroy King of Arms Send Greeting Whereas Mordecai Jackson Crispin of New York City in the State of New York and of Berwick Pennsylvania both in the United States of America Gentleman son of Benjamin Franklin Crispin late of Berwick Pennsylvania aforesaid Gentleman who was son of Benjamin Franklin Crispin late of Philadelphia Pennsylvania aforesaid Gentleman both deceased hath by his Memorial represented unto Edmund Bernard Viscount Hythe Baron of Portwood Knight of the Most Noble Order of the Garter Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order Companion of the Distinguished Service Order One of His Majesty's Most Honourable Privy Council and Deputy to the Most Noble Bernard Marmaduke Duke of Norfolk Earl Marshal and Hereditary Marshal of England that his Grandfather the said Benjamin Franklin Crispin was Son of the Honourable Benjamin Crispin late of Holmesburg Philadelphia aforesaid Gentleman Sometime Speaker of the Senate of Pennsylvania aforesaid who was son of Silas Crispin late of Holmesburg aforesaid Gentleman who was Son of Silas Crispin late of Dublin Township aforesaid Gentleman whose was son of Thomas Crispin late of Dublin Township aforesaid Gentleman who was Son of Silas Crispin late of Dublin Township aforesaid Gentleman who went to Philadelphia in the year 1681 by Hester his Wife daughter and heir of Captain Thomas Holme Surveyor General and Sometime Deputy Governor of Pennsylvania aforesaid a Member of the Provincial Council of the Province of Pennsylvania Gentleman which last named Silas Crispin was son of William Crispin late of the Tower Liberty in the City of London and unto Jerusalem in the County of York Captain in the Royal Navy and Rear Admiral of the Blue in the West Indies who was impressed by his Cousin William Penn Founder of Pennsylvania to head a Commission to settle that Colony to be Chief Justice and Surveyor General but who died on the voyage to America in the year 1681 by Rebecca daughter of Ralph Bradshaw of Sandleton in the County Palatine of Lancaster Gentleman by Rachel his Wife daughter of Giles Penn of Bristol in the County of Gloucester Captain in the Royal Navy and Sister of Sir William Penn Admiral in the Royal Navy That the Memorialist desirous of having the Armorial Bearings used by the said Captain William Crispin as on his Seal namely Three Lions rampant and Crest A demi Griffin erased confirmed to him under a Warrant from the Earl Marshal of England he therefore requested the favour of His Lordship's Warrant for Our granting and confirming the said Arms to be borne and used by him and his descendants and by the other descendants of his father the said Benjamin Franklin Crispin deceased according to the Laws of Arms And forasmuch as His Lordship did by Warrant under his hand and the Seal of the Earl Marshal bearing date the thirty first day of January last authorize and direct Us to grant and confirm such Armorial Ensigns accordingly Know ye therefore that We the said Garter Clarenceux and Norroy in pursuance of His Lordship's Warrant and by virtue of the Letters Patent of Our several Offices to each of Us respectively granted do by these Presents grant and confirm unto the said Mordecai Jackson Crispin the Honorary Arms following that is to say Ermine three Lions rampant Azure armed and langued purpure And for the Crest one Wreath of the Colours A demi Griffin erased Azure as the same are in the margin hereof more plainly depicted to be borne and used for ever hereafter by him the said Mordecai Jackson Crispin and his descendants and by the other descendants of his father the said Benjamin Franklin Crispin deceased with due and proper differences according to the Laws of Arms In witness whereof We the said Garter Clarenceux and Norroy Kings of Arms have to these Presents subscribed Our names and affixed the Seals of Our several Offices this twenty third day of March in the Tenth year of the Reign of Our Sovereign Lord George the Fifth by the Grace of God of Great Britain Ireland and the British Dominions beyond the Seas King Defender of the Faith and in the year of Our Lord One thousand nine hundred and twenty nine

H. Parker Edmonds [redacted] Garter Arthur Cochrane [redacted] Clarenceux J. Woods Wollaston [redacted] Norroy.

Confirmation of Captain William Crispin's Arms
By the College of Arms in England

M. Jackson Crispin
Oct. 16. 1929

(Concluded)

THE

PENNSYLVANIA MAGAZINE

OF

HISTORY AND BIOGRAPHY.

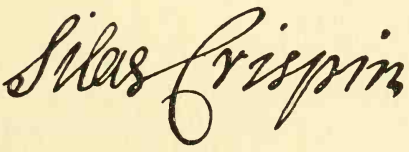
VOL. LIII. 1929. No. 4

CAPTAIN WILLIAM CRISPIN

By M. JACKSON CRISPIN
of New York City and of Berwick, Pennsylvania

(Concluded from page 202)

SILAS CRISPIN I.



Silas, youngest son of Captain William Crispin and Rebecca (Bradshaw) Crispin, was born probably in London, about 1655. He accompanied his father, it would seem, on the unfortunate voyage in the ship "John and Sarah" in the fall and winter of 1681–2.

Captain Crispin having died on the way to America, it devolved upon the son, Silas Crispin, to succeed him and to establish the Crispin family in the New World. Silas was a settler in the Province quite some time before the coming of either Thomas Holme or William Penn. He came[93] to Pennsylvania a young, single man and doubtless at first made his home with his cousin, the Deputy Governor of the Province, Captain William Markham, then apparently living at Upland, now Chester. Crispin, as previously stated, appears in

[93] Silas Crispin did not return to England on the death of his father, as heretofore supposed; nor did he come to this country with Captain Thomas Holme, whose arrival was some months later.

the minutes[94] of the court of Upland, three times, on June 13th, 1682, as juror, his name with that of but two others of the twelve jurymen, together with the names of the justices, being preceded by "Mr", a significantly respectful differentiation of that day. Again, on coming to the same court, September 12th, 1682, as a witness, he and the Sheriff alone of all the court were given this designation.[95]

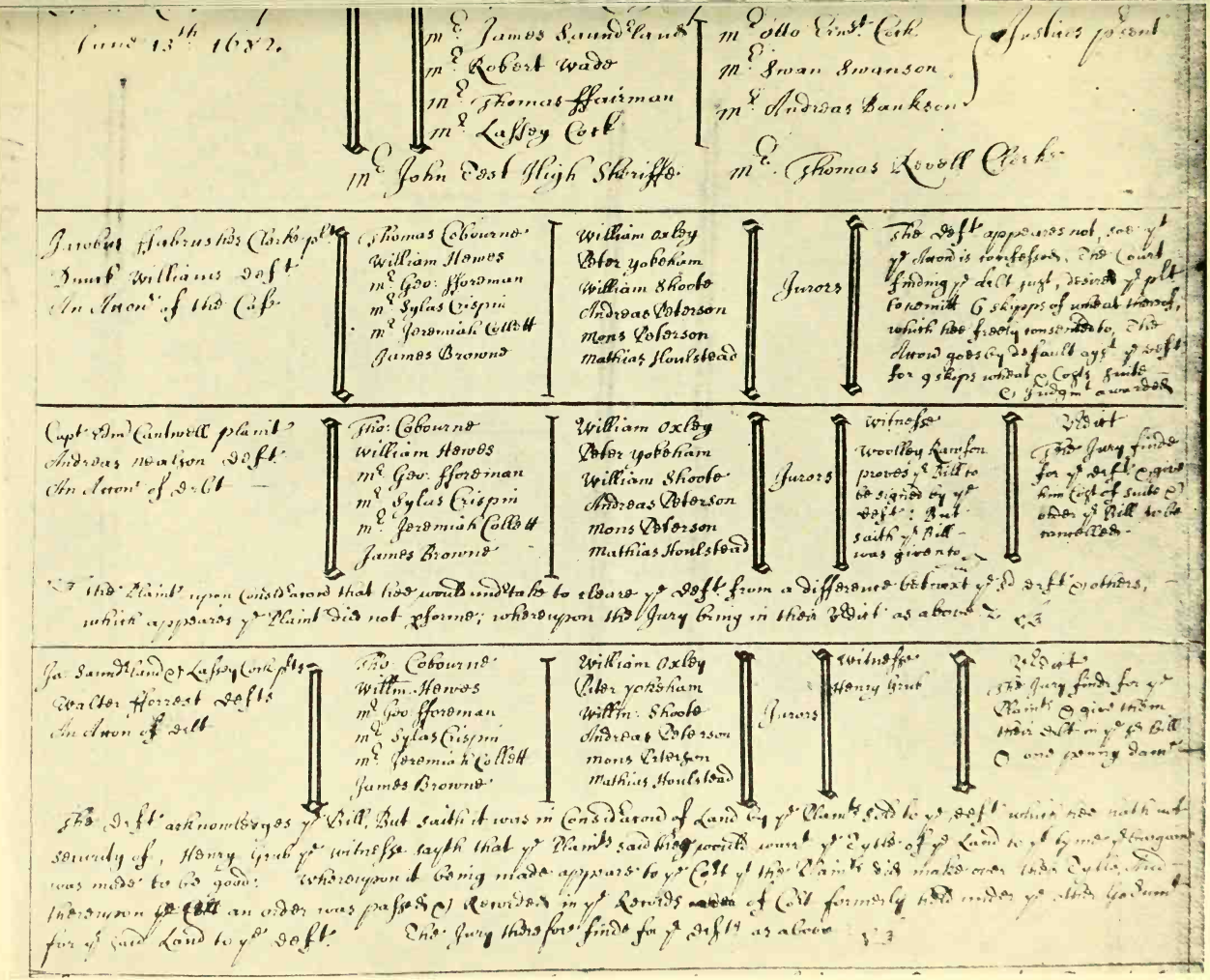
Crispin was with Governor Markham and William Haig in Bucks County, July 15th, 1682, when Markham and Haig in behalf of William Penn received from Idquahon, Janottowe, and other chiefs of the Lenni Lenape or Delaware Indians a deed of sale for the lands of the southern part of that County. This original vellum document, to which Silas Crispin's signature is affixed in bold chirography as a witness, is still in existence among the treasures of The Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

The destinies of Silas Crispin and his family line were now to be affected by the arrival, in early August, 1682, of William Penn's newly-appointed Surveyor General, Captain Thomas Holme (1624–1695) with his sons and marriageable daughters. Captain Holme, pending his laying out of the future City of Philadelphia,—where later he established his city house on the north side of Arch Street, near Front Street—, made his temporary home with the surveyor, Thomas Fairman, at Shackamaxon (Kensington), Delaware River, on the northern outskirts of the later city. Although the Holmes were Quakers and Silas Crispin, it is believed, was an Episcopalian, yet soon he came a courting the Captain's daughter, Hester Holme, and by 1683 had married her. Thereupon, it behooved him to establish an abode and an estate for his family.

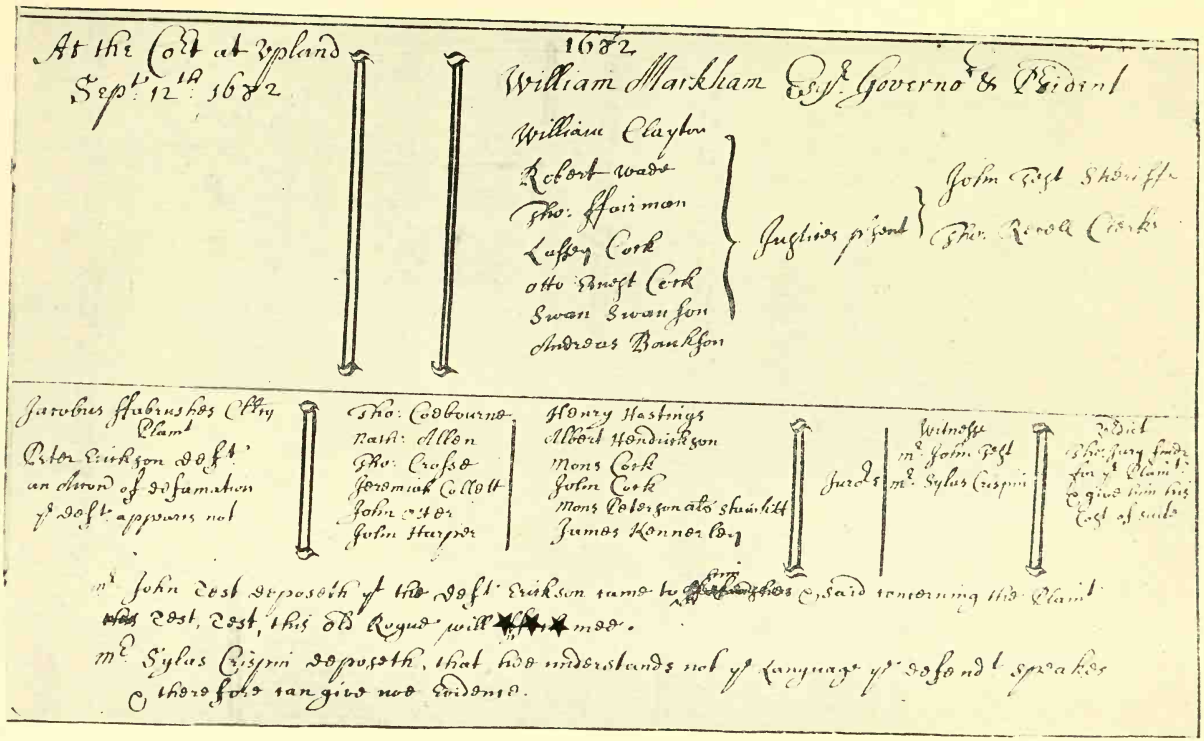
---

[94] *Record of the Courts of Chester County, 1681–1697* (Philadelphia, 1910) 14–19.

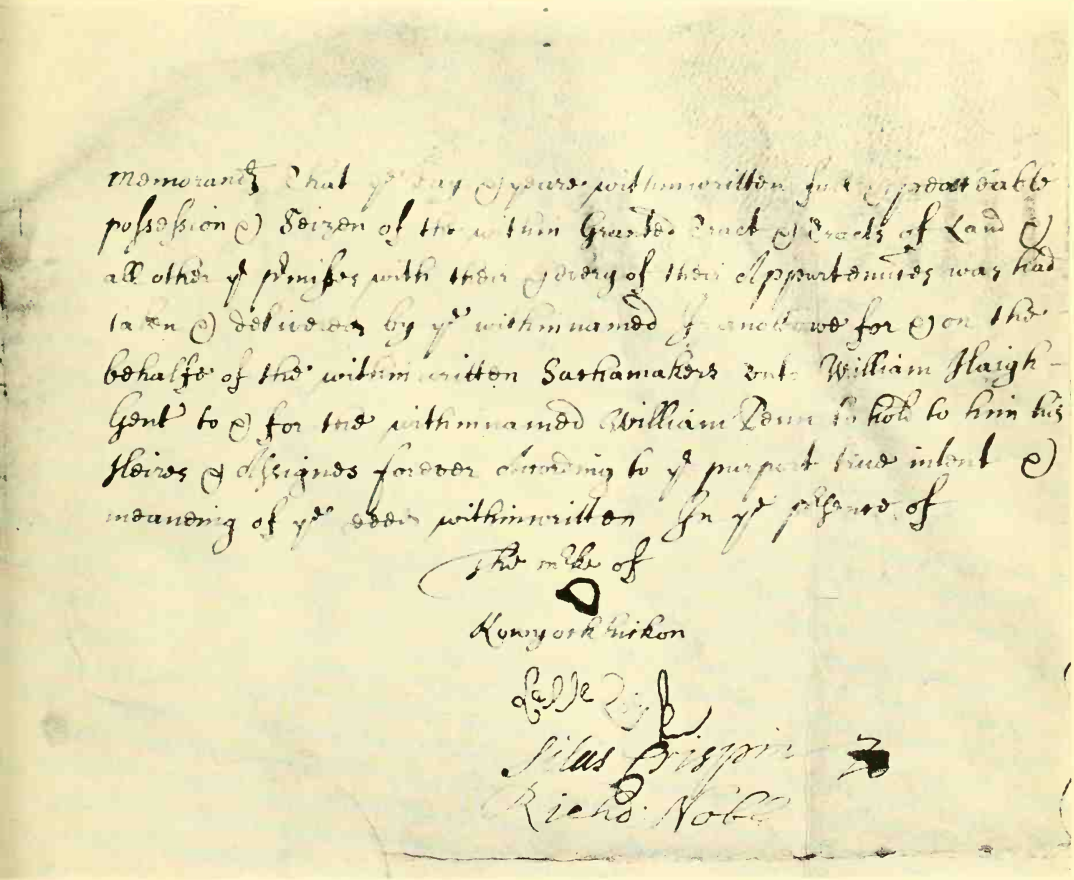
[95] *Ibid.* 19–20.



Original Manuscript Minutes, dated June 13th, 1682, of the Court of Upland, later Chester County (Now Delaware County), Pennsylvania, in which "Mr Sylas Crispin" figures as Juror, his name appearing three times. The manuscript, in size 9 x 14¾ inches, in the hand of Thomas Revell, clerk, is preserved in the Office of the Prothonotary of Chester County, West Chester, Pennsylvania.



Original Manuscript Minutes, dated September 12th, 1682, of the Court of Upland, later Chester County, Pennsylvania, in which "Mr Sylas Crispin" appears as Witness.



Silas Crispin's Signature as a Witness on the William Penn Indian Deed of July 15th, 1682, under the Mark of Chief Kowyockhickon and between the Signatures of the noted Swedish Indian Interpreter, Captain Lasse Cock, and the Surveyor, Richard Noble.

The earliest catalogue or list of the First Purchasers of Pennsylvania lands, bought from William Penn in England, as to be laid out in the new Province, was engrossed on two vellum skins and signed by him in late October 1681, so that it might be taken overseas by Captain Crispin and his fellow Commissioners. Near the end of the second skin under section "XXIX" is the entry:

"William Crispin & Silas Crispin of Kingsale in the Kingdom of Ireland Gent^{s} } Acres 5000 "[96]

This record makes evident that the usual form of deeds of lease and release for 5000 acres of land *to be* laid out in Pennsylvania had been executed by Penn to the Crispins, in 1681, some time prior to their migration.

With the coming now of family responsibility, in 1683, Silas Crispin sought the execution of his deed and became for the first time an actual land owner in the Province. Upon this tract, the first issued to him, he located his habitation. His special knowledge of the county, gained by travel and influential association, enabled him to make a choice selection and his position as a member of the Proprietary governing family made easy his obtaining the title papers. Indeed, William Penn, himself, at that time here on his first American visit, signed Crispin's warrant for the tract, August 10th, 1683, as follows, by which Surveyor General Holme was directed to have the survey made:

William Penn Proprietary & Govern^{r}. of y^{e}
Province of Pennsilvania & y^{e}
Territories thereunto belonging

At y^{e} Request of Silas Crispin Purchaser of Five Thousand Acres of Land in this Province, That I would grant him to take up part thereof in y^{e} County of Philadelphia. These are to will & require thee forth wth to survey or cause to be surveyed unto him Five hundred Acres in y^{e}

[96] Albert Cook Myers Collection.

sd County where not already taken up, according to y^e^ method of Townships appointed by me, & make returns thereof in to my Secretary's Office. Given at Philadelphia y^e^ 10^th^ $\frac{6^{th}}{mo}$ 1683 Wm Penn

For Thomas Holmes
Survey^r^ General.

Accordingly, on the 17th of the same month the tract was laid out, and June 4th, 1684, the return of the survey was formally recorded by Holme in the Land Office.[97]

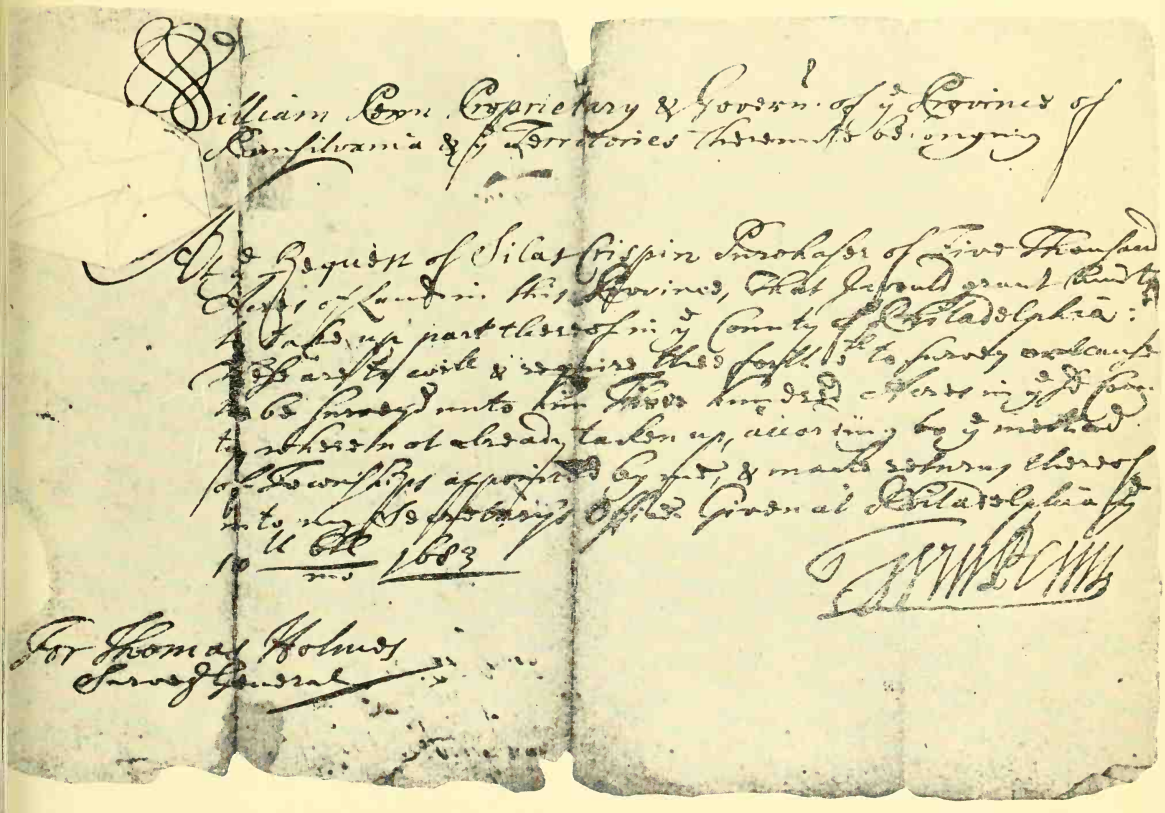
The grant was a rectangle of 500 acres in what then was known as the upper part of Dublin Township (afterward Lower Dublin), Philadelphia County, on the line of the present Abington Township, Montgomery County. It was bounded on the northeast by Dr. Nicholas More's Manor of Moreland, on the southeast by John Mason's land, on the southwest by the Susquehanna Road and on the northwest (across the present Abington Township line) by William Stanley's land. It is shown on Thomas Holme's printed Map of Pennsylvania, of 1687.

To this plantation home Crispin brought his bride. There is a tradition in the family that their first child was born in the wigwam of an Indian chief. Howbeit, here, beginning with his daughter Sarah, March 31st, 1684, his children were born, and here he made his abode to the end of his days. The place now forms a part of the Pennypack Park, in the 35th Ward of the City of Philadelphia. It is, as the crow flies, ten miles northeast of the City Hall and nearly two miles north of the Roosevelt Boulevard.

In 1693 upon the petition of the inhabitants of the Township requesting the continuation and confirmation of a "ten year old road" from the Township to Walter Forrest's Mill,[98] which was on Poquessing

[97] MS. Survey and Warrant Book, No. 9, page 9, City Hall, Philadelphia.

[98] *Penna. Colonial Records, I* (Phila., 1852) 389.



Original Land Warrant signed by William Penn, Philadelphia, 6 Mo. (August), 10th, 1683, to his Cousin, Silas Crispin, for his 500 acre Tract in Philadelphia County. From the Pennsylvania State Land Office at Harrisburg.

Creek in Byberry, the road was begun "at the Bridge near the Dwelling House of Silas Crispin."[99] Thus it seems evident that the house stood on the bank of Pennypack Creek as it etches its picturesque way through the even yet well timbered hills of the region.

Over three miles down the Creek in the same Township, at present Holmesburg, Philadelphia, was Wellspring Plantation, the country estate of Crispin's father-in-law, Thomas Holme.

Crispin subscribed £50 for stock of the Free Society of Traders in Pennsylvania.[100] As executor of the will of his father-in-law, Captain Thomas Holme, he spent a great deal of time caring for the large interest in lands left by the latter, obtaining warrants for laying out lands not taken up at Holme's death, selling some of the tracts, and engaging in like business. In the deeds he is styled "Silas Crispin of Dublin Township, Gentleman."

On August 28th, 1689, the Provincial Council appointed Silas Crispin, Robert Turner, Benjamin Chambers, Joseph Fisher, Thomas Fairman and Robert Adams, with a surveyor, to lay out a cart road according to statute, they having petitioned to have a road laid out from Philadelphia to Bucks County. This was no doubt the present Bristol Pike and they probably followed to a great extent the rather indefinite trail previously known as the "King's Path." Again in 1703 and 1710 Crispin assisted in laying out roads near his home.[101]

In addition to his home plantation, Silas was granted 500 acres in Hilltown Township, Philadelphia County, forty acres in the "Liberties of Philadelphia" and three lots in the city. The Liberty land was just half,

---

[99] Land Records at Harrisburg, etc.

[100] *Penna. Mag.*, XI., 177.

[101] MS. Road Dockets, Philadelphia Court of Quarter Sessions, City Hall, Philadelphia.

and the area of the city lots approximately half of what was due under a purchase of five thousand acres, yet Silas appears to have been the only one of the children who had either, as the others all sold their rights before any land was actually laid out to them. The patents to all these are made out to "Silas Crispin, Purchaser," seemingly as part of his First Purchase of his father and himself. This five hundred acre tract in Hilltown Township, Philadelphia County (now Abington Township, Montgomery County), was about eight miles back from the Delaware River in a straight line along the hypothetical Susquehanna Road. The tract was rectangular, bounded northeast by Moreland, southeast by Lehnmann's land, southwest by the Susquehanna Road and northwest by land Captain Thomas Holme had taken up in right of Samuel Claridge. It is shown on Holme's map of 1687. Between 1686 and 1698 Silas Crispin sold this in separate portions to Cornelius Sturgis, John Meredith and Thomas Hood.

The forty acres of Liberty Land was rectangular, a short distance northeast of Germantown Road, beyond Isaac Norris' "Fairhill" plantation. He sold this to Nicholas Rideout in 1695, who sold it to Nicholas Waln. Silas Crispin's city lots, as already mentioned, were not the same as those allotted to his father on the original plan. A number of alterations had been made in the plan before the lots were surveyed. One was on the west side of Delaware Front Street, 162 feet south of Walnut. It was 42 feet on Front Street running back 155 feet on the north line and 201 feet on the south line, bounded on the west by a marsh. In 1684 he sold this to William Frampton. Another of his lots was on the southwest corner of High Street and Strawberry Alley, 40 feet (afterwards found to be 41 feet) on High Street and 80 feet on the Alley. He sold this about 1692 to Joseph Farrington. The other of Silas Crispin's lots

was on the southeast corner of Sixth and High Streets, 66 feet on High and 306 feet on Sixth Street. This was patented to him in 1688 and the same year he sold it to Patrick Robinson. (Patrick Robinson exchanged thirty-nine and a half feet in breadth of this with Robert Greenaway, Captain of the Ship "Welcome," for the same amount adjoining the lot he (Patrick Robinson) had purchased from Crispin, as Holme's executor, farther east in the same square, the latter being twenty-six and a half feet, originally intended for twenty-six); these combined lots, sixty-six feet front, he sold to Lionel Britain. This exchange has made a good deal of confusion in the attempt to locate the lots from the records, some giving it as "Robert Greenway's exchange with Silas Crispin," while the deed shows Crispin to have sold the corner lot intact to Robinson, and the minutes of the Board of Property say that Robinson made the exchange with Greenway.

Silas Crispin's wife Hester died April 17th, 1696, and he married, second, 1697, Mary, daughter of Richard and Abigail Stockton, of Springfield Township, Burlington County, West New Jersey, and widow of Thomas Shinn of the same county and province. Her father, Richard Stockton, was an Englishman of good birth and some fortune, who settled in Flushing, Long Island, where he was a lieutenant of a troop of horse in 1665. He afterwards joined the Society of Friends and removed to Burlington County, New Jersey, and became ancestor of the Stockton family of that Province.

The final illness of Silas Crispin is thus mentioned in a holograph letter[102] of his first cousin, Robert Assheton[103] (1670–1727), Philadelphia Town Clerk,

[102] In the collection of the writer.

[103] Son of William Assheton, by his wife Frances Bradshaw (daughter of Ralph Bradshaw by his wife Rachel, daughter of Giles Penn).

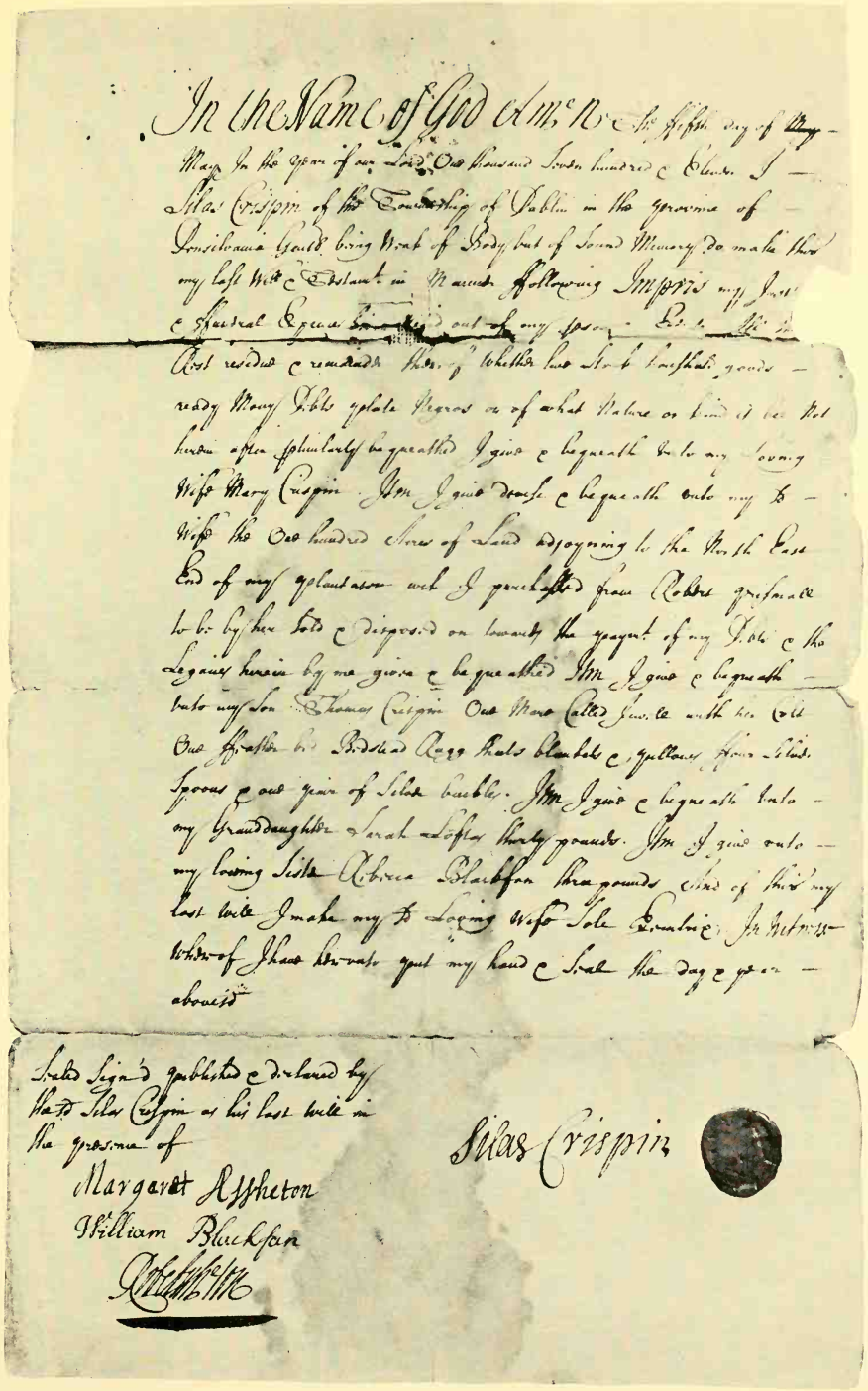
to their first cousin, William Penn, dated Philadelphia, May 23rd, 1711:

"Cosin Crispin was Tapt yesterday for a Trapany or Dropsie has very bad how it will goe with him I cant tell but am in hopes heel recover it."

Silas Crispin died May 31st, 1711. His original will, in which he is styled "Gent," is preserved in the City Hall, Philadelphia. It is dated May 5th, 1711, and is in the handwriting of his cousin Robert Assheton, above mentioned, who signs as witness, along with his wife, Margaret Assheton, and Crispin's nephew, William Blackfan. Although "Weak in Body," Crispin signs his will with a strong clear hand. He made his wife, Mary, executrix, left her his plate, negroes, household goods, and the like, and directed her to sell a hundred acres, bought from Robert Pressmall, adjoining on the north east of his plantation, to pay debts and legacies. Among minor bequests to his son Thomas, were "ffour silver Spoons & one pair of silver buckles." To his granddaughter Sarah Loftus and his sister Rebecca Blackfan, he left sums of money. The will was proved August 7th, 1711, over the signature of the Deputy Governor Charles Gookin. The widow, Mary Crispin, however, renouncing her executrixship, July 5th, 1711, letters of administration, *cum testamento annexo,* were granted to the son, Thomas Crispin, April 19th, 1714.

The full text of the will is as follows:

In the Name of God Amen The ffifth day of May In the year of our Lord One thousand seven hundred & Eleven I Silas Crispin of the Township of Dublin in the province of Pensilvania Gẽntl being Weak of Body but of sound memory do make this my last Will & Testam^{t}. in Manner ffollowing Impris my Just [debts] & ffuneral Expenses being paid out of my ℘sonal Estate All th[e] Rest residue & remaindr thereof whether live stock household goods ready Mony Debts plate Negros or of what Nature or kind it bee Not herein after ℘ticularly bequeathed I give & bequeath unto my Loving Wife Mary Crispin. Item I give devise & bequeath unto my sd Wife the One hundred Acres of Land adjoyning to the North East End of my plantacon



Original Will of Silas Crispin, as signed by him, May 5th, 1711.

wch I purchased from Robert Prismall to be by her sold & disposed on towards the paym^{t}. of my Debts & the Legacies herein by me given & bequeathed Item I give & bequeath unto my Son Thomas Crispin One Mare Called Jewell with her Colt One ffeather bed Bedstead Rugg sheets blankets & pillows ffour silver Spoons & one pair of silver buckles. Item I give & bequeath unto my Granddaughter Sarah Loftus thirty pounds. Item I give unto my loving Sister Rebecca Blackfan three pounds And of this my last will I make my sd Loving Wife Sole Executrix In Witness whereof I have hereunto put my hand & Seal the day & year abovesd

Silas Crispin

Sealed Signed published
& delivered by the sd
Silas Crispin as his last
will in the presence of
Margaret Assheton
William Blackfan
Robt Assheton

Filed with the will is the inventory of Silas Crispin's estate, made September 6th, 1711 by John Hart and Michael Butcher. It is a long but quaint document affording an interesting exhibit of the household furnishings and plantation economy of that early day. A sumptuous item is "the Red bed and bedstead with all its furneture," appraised at £12. The livestock included 9 horses, 12 cows, a bull, 5 heifers, 6 calves, 38 sheep and 19 hogs.

His landed estate is not mentioned in his will, his own plantation going by the law of primogeniture to his son Thomas, while the other children of his first wife were heirs, through their mother, to Captain Thomas Holme's "Well Spring Plantation" and other large domains, Holme having acquired at different times upwards of 10,000 acres, of which at his death he possessed more than 2,100 acres. Crispin's children by his second wife were quite young at the time of his death and probably he expected them to be provided for by their mother whose family was wealthy.

After her husband's death, Mary Crispin returned to Burlington, New Jersey, where she had lived before her marriage. She was married, November 11th, 1714,

at Springfield Quaker Meeting, to Richard Ridgway, Jr., of Springfield Township, who was her third husband.

Silas Crispin and Hester (Holme) Crispin had the following issue:

SARAH, born March 31st, 1684, married Lesson Loftus, of the City of Philadelphia.

REBECCA, born May 6th, 1685, married Joseph Finney, son of Samuel Finney, Provincial Councillor and Provincial Judge, and brother of Captain John Finney, Provincial Councillor and High Sheriff of Philadelphia County, of the family of Finney, of Fulshaw Hall, Cheshire, England.

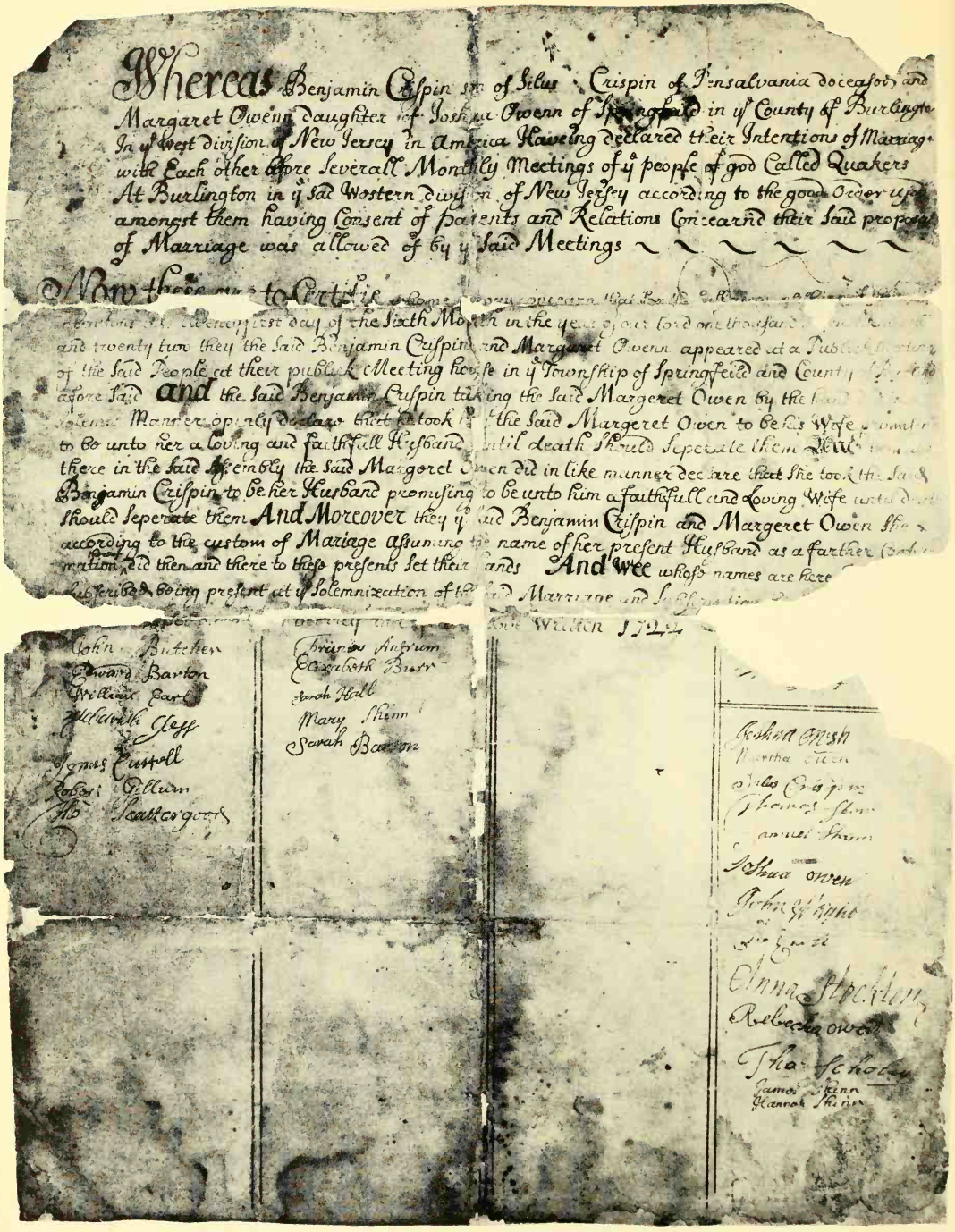
MARIE, born October 1686, married John Collet, son of Richard and Elizabeth (Rush) Collet.

ELEANOR, born September 11th, 1687, married, November 23rd, 1708, John Hart, Jr., who was High Sheriff of Bucks County, and also Coroner and Justice in the same County, son of John Hart, Member of Assembly, by his wife Susanna Rush.

From their son, Colonel Joseph Hart, by his marriage with his first cousin, Elizabeth Collet, daughter of John and Marie (Crispin) Collet, descends James Watts Mercur (son of Ulysses Mercur, Chief Justice of Pennsylvania), of Wallingford, Pennsylvania, Trustee and Secretary of the Crispin Cemetery Corporation, and father of James Watts Mercur, Jr., Mrs. Thomas Cahall and Mrs. John Seaman Albert, of Wallingford, and of the Baroness Orazio Nicola Saitto, of Moylan, Pennsylvania.

WILLIAM, born October 3rd, 1689, died young.

ESTHER, born October 29th, 1691, married Thomas Rush, grandson of John Rush. The above mentioned John Collet, John Hart, Jr., and Thomas Rush were all grandsons of Captain John Rush, formerly of the Parliamentary Army of England, who came to Pennsylvania in 1683, and held a plantation in Byberry,


Whereas Benjamin Crispin son of Silas Crispin of Pensalvania deceasd and Margaret Owenn daughter of Joshua Owenn of Springfield in y^e County of Burlington in y^e West Division of New Jersey in America Having declared their Intentions of Marriage with Each other before Severall Monthly Meetings of y^e people of god Called Quakers At Burlington in y^e Said Western division of New Jersey according to the good Order used amongst them having Consent of parents and Relations Concearnd their Said proposal of Marriage was allowed of by y^e Said Meetings

Now these are to Certifie

and twenty two they the Said Benjamin Crispin and Margaret Owenn appeared at a Public Meeting of the Said People at their publick Meeting house in y^e Township of Springfield and County aforesaid and the Said Benjamin Crispin taking the Said Margaret Owen by the hand in a solemn Manner openly Declared that he took the Said Margaret Owen to be his Wife promising to be unto her a loving and faithfull Husband until death Should Seperate them And there in the Said Assembly the Said Margaret Owen did in like manner declare that She took the Said Benjamin Crispin to be her Husband promising to be unto him a faithfull and Loving Wife until death Should Seperate them And Moreover they y^e Said Benjamin Crispin and Margaret Owen She according to the custom of Mariage Assuming the name of her present Husband as a further confirmation did then and there to these presents Set their hands And wee whose names are here Subscribed being present at y^e Solemnization of the Said Marriage and Subscription

John Butcher
Edward Barton
William Earl
Richard Jeff
James Cattell
Robert Gillum
Tho Scattergood

Frances Antrum
Elizabeth Burr
Sarah Hall
Mary Shinn
Sarah Barton

Joshua Owen
Martha Owen
Silas Crispin
Thomas Shinn
Samuel Shinn
Joshua Owen
John Wright
Tho Earl
Ann Stockton
Rebecka Owen
Tho: Scholey
James Shinn
Hannah Shinn

Original Certificate, owned by M. Jackson Crispin, of the Quaker Marriage of Benjamin Crispin, son of Silas Crispin, of Pennsylvania, deceased, to Margaret Owen, daughter of Joshua Owen, of Springfield, Burlington County, New Jersey, at Springfield Friends' Meeting House, 6 Mo. (August) 21st, 1722.

The signatures of the bride and groom are worn away but next below them in the relatives' column were the following witnesses: Joshua Owen, Martha Owen, Silas Crispin, Thomas Shinn, Samuel Shinn, Joshua Owen, John Wright, Tho Earl, Ann Stockton, Rebecka Owen, Tho: Scholey, James Shinn, Thomas Shinn. Other witnesses were: John Butcher, Edward Barton, William Earl, Zachariah Jess, Jonas Cattell, Robert Gillum, Tho. Scattergood, Frances Antrum, Elizabeth Burr, Sarah Hall, Mary Shinn, Sarah Barton.

for account of whom see *Pennsylvania Magazine,* Volume XVII, No. 3, pages 325–335.

THOMAS (See below).

SUSANNA, born April 14th, 1696, died young.

The above children removed from the immediate vicinity, Thomas Crispin alone remaining.

Silas Crispin and Mary (Stockton Shinn) Crispin had the following issue:

JOSEPH, born October 7th, 1698, married Elizabeth Barrett. Removed to Delaware.

BENJAMIN, born September 1st, 1699, married, August 21st, 1722, at Springfield Meeting, Margaret Owen, daughter of Joshua and Martha Owen, of Springfield Township.

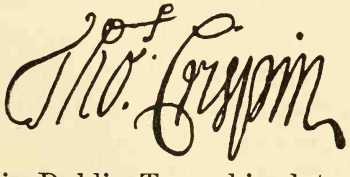
ABIGAIL, born January 30th, 1701, married John Wright, of Springfield Township.

SILAS, born March 19th, 1702, died November 1749, married, November 9th, 1724, Mary Wetherill, daughter of Thomas and Ann (Fearson) Wetherill, of Burlington, and granddaughter of Christopher Wetherill, ancestor of the Wetherill family of New Jersey and Philadelphia.

MARY, born May 12th, 1705, married November 6th, 1727, Thomas Earl, of Burlington County, son of William Earl, of New England, ancestor of the Earl family of New Jersey.

JOHN, born December 11th, 1707.

THOMAS CRISPIN

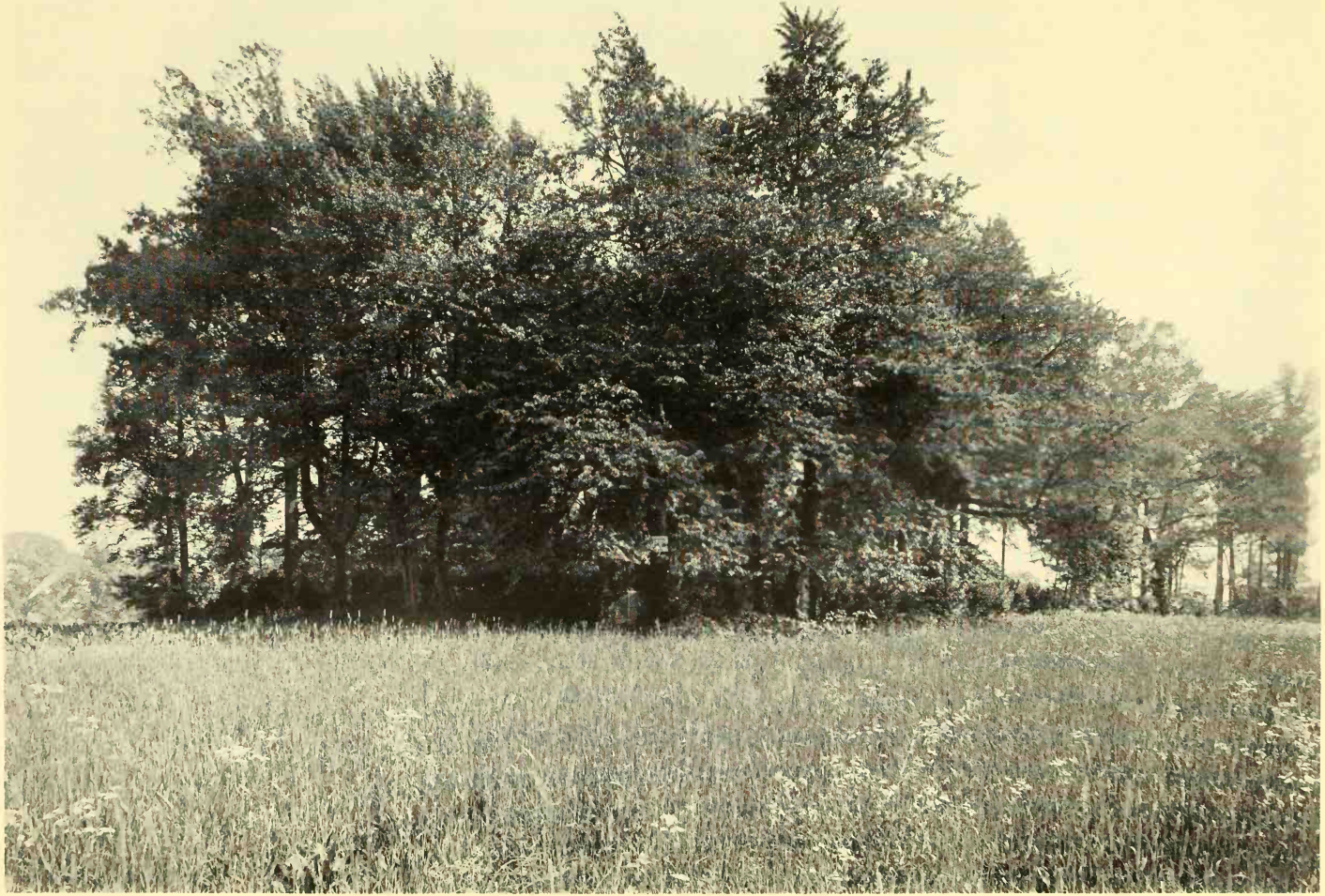


Thomas Crispin, oldest surviving son of Silas and Hester (Holme) Crispin, was born June 22nd, 1694, on his father's plantation, in Dublin Township, later Lower Dublin Township, in Philadelphia County, which he inherited and made his home for the remainder of his life. He married, about

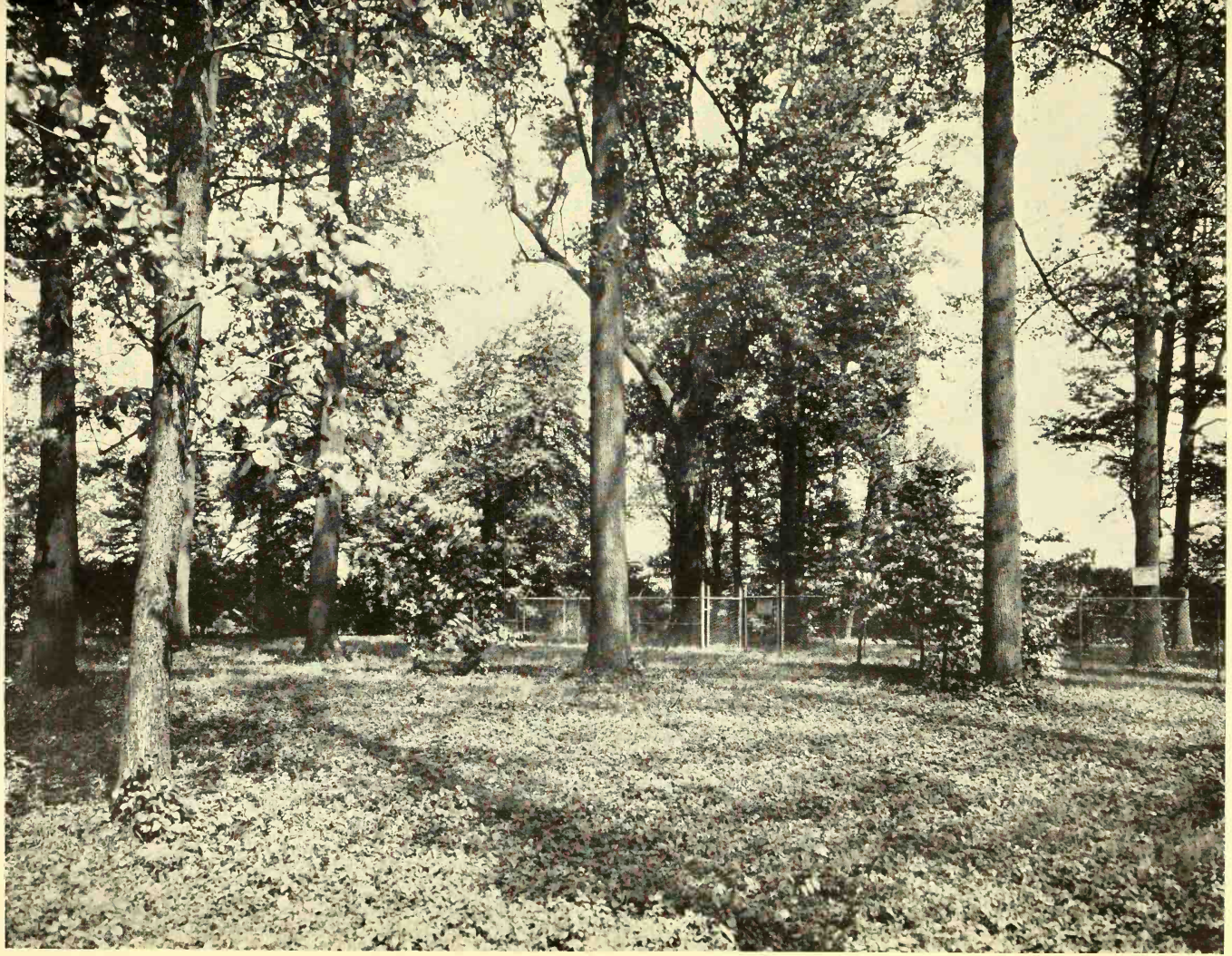
1716, Jane Ashton, daughter of Joseph Ashton, a Justice of the Philadelphia County Courts and a large landowner in Dublin Township. She was born about 1696; died 1749. They had issue: Silas (see below), Thomas, Joseph, Hannah, and Mercy. He and his sisters (of the full blood) inherited through their mother the estate of their grandfather, Captain Thomas Holme, which, as has been stated, included the Well Spring Plantation and a smaller tract adjoining, amounting in all to over 2100 acres, and which in 1723 was divided among the then living heirs.

One acre of ground, which was set aside by Captain Thomas Holme, in 1694, for a family graveyard was reserved for their use in common, and he was buried there in 1695. His grave is now marked by a marble shaft erected by the Trustees of the Lower Dublin Academy in 1863–4. Thomas Crispin and his wife were buried there in 1749, where their tombstones may be seen to this day, bearing their initials and the dates of their deaths. Thomas Crispin's descendants continued to use it and it became known as the "Old Crispin Burying Ground," later in 1831, the "Crispin Burial Ground Community," and since 1840, when it was incorporated, the "Crispin Cemetery Corporation." After 1800, there were practically no burials, although there were a few during the next fifty years, after which time they ceased altogether.

The heirs of Thomas Holme also set aside, in 1723, 1½ acres of ground, to satisfy a clause in his will, for a charitable purpose, and on this ground was erected a log school house, which thus ante-dates the famous Germantown School. Out of this grew the Lower Dublin Academy which was chartered in 1794 and a new building erected. Both of these old buildings are now standing. The Thomas Holme Branch of the Free Library of Philadelphia, in Holmesburg, is the direct result of this donation.



The Crispin Cemetery, on The Thomas Holme Boulevard,
Holmesburg, Philadelphia.



The Crispin Cemetery, on The Thomas Holme Boulevard, Holmesburg, Philadelphia, 1929.

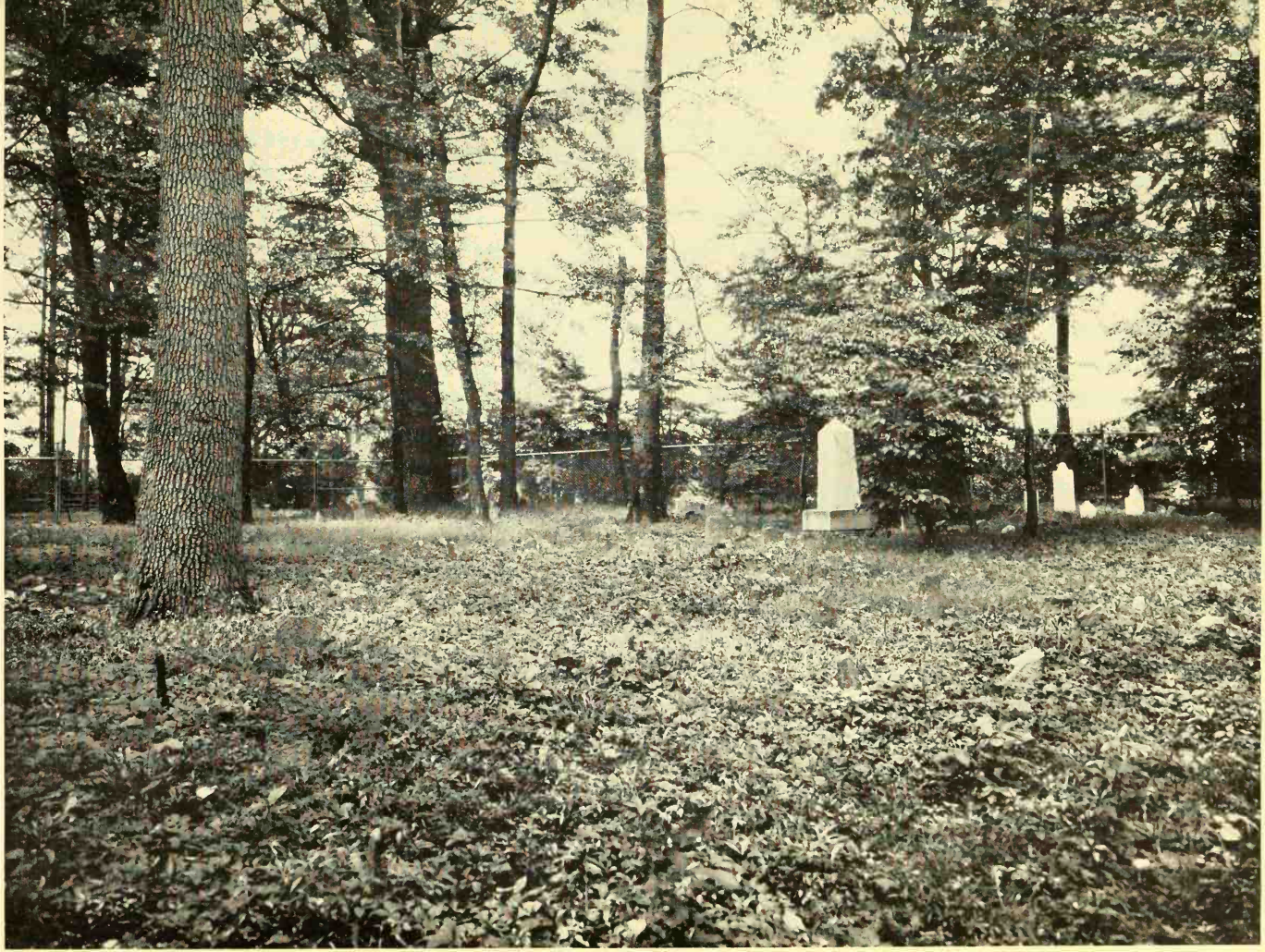
The 300th anniversary of the birth of Thomas Holme was celebrated November 11th, 1924, elaborate exercises being held on this day in honor of the distinguished services rendered by him to the City of Philadelphia and to Pennsylvania. This commemoration, very appropriately, was inspired and directed by The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, through one of its departments, The Pennsylvania Historical Commission, of which Albert Cook Myers was the Secretary-Director, and was participated in by high officials of the City and State, as well as by Holme's living descendants. On the preceding evening, the 10th, The Historical Society of Pennsylvania, held a meeting in honor of Holme, Mr. Myers delivering the address on the subject, with lantern slides. During the morning of the 11th, appropriate exercises were held at the Crispin Cemetery and in the afternoon a bronze tablet was unveiled (on a building at 113 Arch Street, on which site stood Thomas Holme's original Philadelphia residence), by Elizabeth Brockway Crispin, of New York City, whose line of direct descent from Thomas Holme is given in this article.

While preparing for the above commemoration, a permanent committee was formed, the purpose of which was to endeavor to have an ordinance passed by the Council of the City of Philadelphia to surround the Crispin Cemetery with a park to be named the Holme-Crispin Park, as a mark of respect to the memory of Thomas Holme. The members of this committee were: J. Harvey Gillingham, Chairman, George S. Webster, John A. Vogelson, Clement B. Webster, Walter Brinton, A. Zane Hoffman, William C. Reeder, John Stephenson Clark and M. Jackson Crispin. Eli Kirk Price attended all of the meetings subsequently held by this committee.

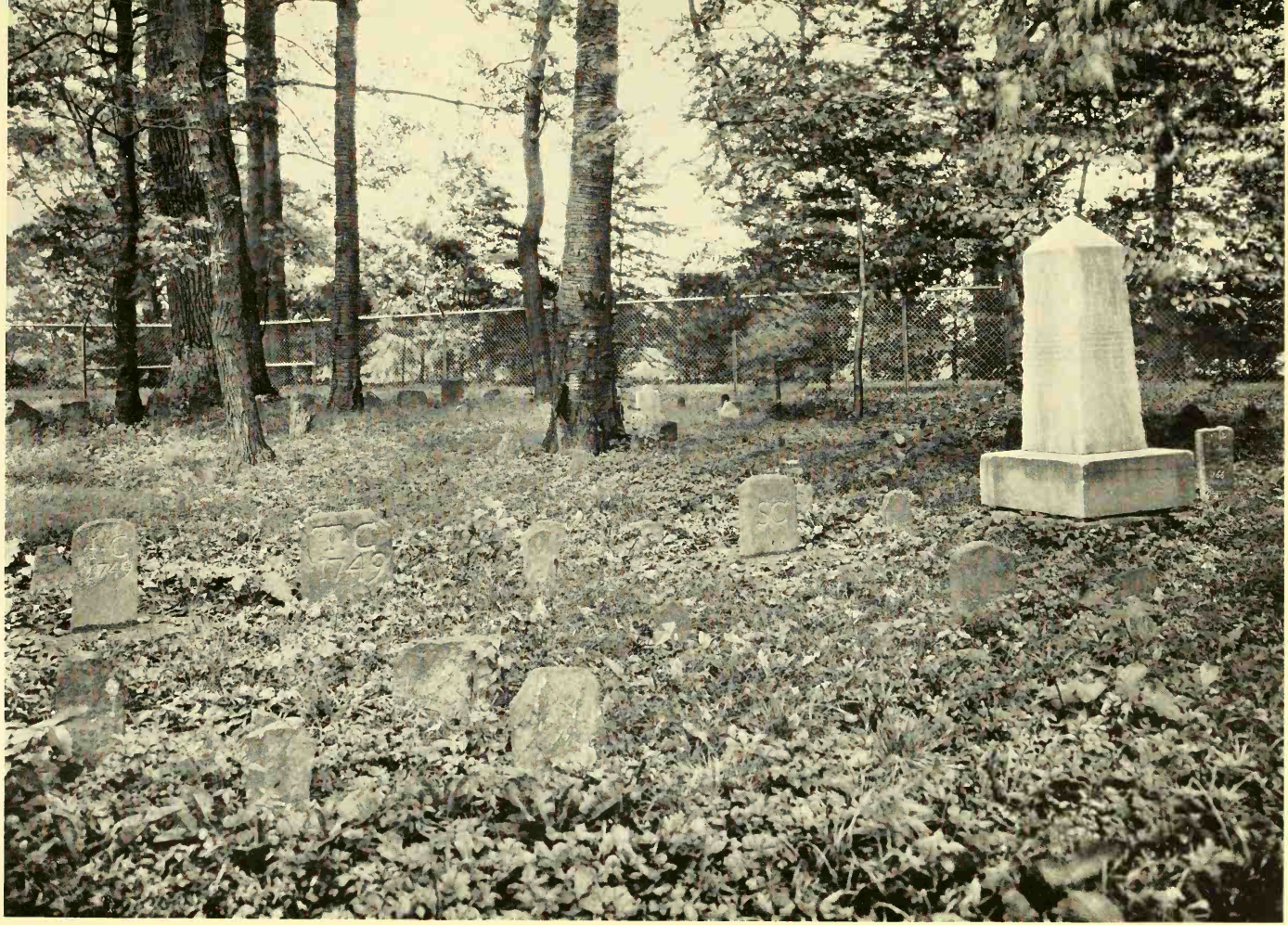
A number of meetings were held in Philadelphia from that time until October 19th, 1925, when the

Holme-Crispin Park was placed upon the City plan. After this date many meetings were attended by Messrs. Eli K. Price, Clarence K. Crossan, member of Council from the district in which the Crispin Cemetery is located, J. Harvey Gillingham, James Watts Mercur, John Stephenson Clark and M. Jackson Crispin, until May 7th, 1928, on which date a meeting was held at the Ritz Carlton Hotel attended by the gentlemen above mentioned. It was the opinion of Mr. Crossan that the time for action had arrived and consequently he presented an Ordinance to the City Council on May 10th, 1928, authorizing the City of Philadelphia to start proceedings to condemn for park purposes 37 acres more or less of land including the Crispin Cemetery.

Two days later on May 12th another luncheon was held at the Ritz Carlton Hotel at which were present the Hon. Harry A. Mackey, Mayor of Philadelphia, John H. Neeson, newly elected Chief Engineer and Surveyor of the Engineering and Survey Bureau, Messrs. Price, Crossan, Gillingham and Crispin. The entire matter was placed before the Mayor, who graciously expressed himself as being in favor of the plan and stated that he would be glad to give it his co-operation and approval. The first reading of the Ordinance occurred June 21st, 1928. It had been agreed to exclude the Cemetery property from the condemnation proceedings, which through an error had not been done, consequently, the Ordinance was recommitted to the Committee, June 28th, excluding the Cemetery. It was reported back by the Committee, September 27th, was amended and passed the second reading on October 4th, the third reading on October 11th and signed by Mayor Mackey, October 15th, 1928. After the signing of the Ordinance by the Mayor, it was discovered that the name of one of the streets recited in the boundary of the area was incorrect. This



The Crispin Cemetery on The Thomas Holme Boulevard, Holmesburg, Philadelphia, showing Thomas Holme Monument and Crispin Gravestones.



The Crispin Cemetery, on the Thomas Holme Boulevard, Holmesburg, Philadelphia. From right, Thomas Holme Monument, "S C" (Silas Crispin I.) "T. C 1749" (Thomas Crispin) and "J. C 1749" (Jane Crispin, wife of Thomas) Gravestones.

made it necessary for the City Council to pass an Amendment correcting the error, which was done on June 20th, 1929, by changing the name of Albion Street to Wilson Street, when the ordinance became a law. Hence, the Holme-Crispin Park, which is part of the Pennypack Park surrounding the Crispin Cemetery where Thomas Holme lies buried, has come into existence, thus recognizing the services of this distinguished man who drew up the plans and plotted the City of Philadelphia and the Province of Pennsylvania.

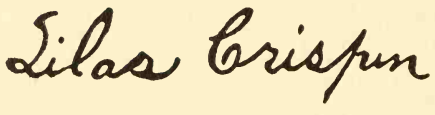
Mayor Mackey is to be heartily congratulated and most highly commended for his prompt support of this park, which action made its inception possible. The Trustees of the Crispin Cemetery will make appropriate improvements to this property and present it to the City of Philadelphia.

SILAS CRISPIN II.

Silas Crispin, son of Thomas and Jane (Ashton) Crispin, inherited the land of his father in Lower Dublin Township and lived there his entire life. This estate, part of the tract descending from Captain Thomas Holme, was known as "Bellevue." He married Martha Miles,[104] January 14th, 1749, daughter of Griffith Miles, of Radnor, Chester County, Pa., who was born 1727 and died before 1794. They had issue: Silas (see below), Joseph, an officer in the Revolutionary War, William, Sarah, Jane and Thomas. In 1794 he wrote an account of the family graveyard and other matters pertaining to the Crispin family. He died in 1800, and was buried in the Crispin Cemetery.

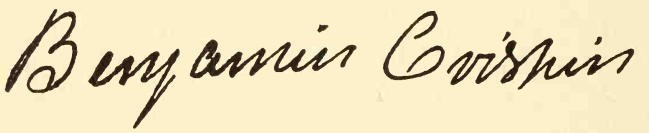
[104] From the original manuscript account book of James Hamilton, in the collection of The Historical Society of Pennsylvania.

SILAS CRISPIN, III.



Silas,[105] son of Silas and Martha (Miles) Crispin, was born, May 11th, 1767, in Lower Dublin Township, at "Bellevue," which he inherited from his father and he died there of lock-jaw as a result of running a nail in his foot, August 13th, 1806, at the early age of 39. He married Esther Dougherty, 1788, who was born 1767, and died May 7th, 1838. They had issue: Martha, Benjamin (see below), Mary, Paul, Silas, Hester and Ann.

HON. BENJAMIN CRISPIN.



The Hon. Benjamin Crispin, son of Silas and Esther (Dougherty) Crispin, was born in 1792, on the ancestral estate of "Bellevue." He was educated in Lower Dublin Academy, with which his family was so closely identified. In 1822 he was commissioned a Lieutenant of Pennsylvania Militia. In 1823, he was appointed by the Governor of Pennsylvania, Justice of the Peace for the Townships of Byberry, Lower Dublin, and Oxford, Philadelphia County, and held that office until 1837. In 1828 he was appointed by the Court of Quarter Sessions of Philadelphia Director of Public Schools in his district. In 1837, he was elected a member of the General Assembly of Penn-

[105] While it is not definitely known, the facts all seem to indicate that Silas was the oldest son. He inherited his father's landed estate and was the sole executor of his will. It is highly probable that his father would name his first born "Silas" and there is plenty of evidence that he was a very old man at the time of his death in 1800. The late Oliver Hough in an article on the Crispin family, appearing in John W. Jordan's *Colonial and Revolutionary Families*, I. (New York, 1911) 365, designates him as the youngest son.

Benjamin Crispin

sylvania, and re-elected in 1838–1839. In 1840 he was elected to the State Senate and in 1843 was made Speaker of the Senate as the presiding officer of that body was then designated. When the whole of Philadelphia County was incorporated with the city in 1854, Mr. Crispin was elected the first Common Councilman from the 23rd Ward. On his retirement the Council presented him with a cane which is now in the possession of his family. He continued to manifest a deep interest in the schools, and on leaving the Council was again elected to the local school board. A new public school in Holmesburg was named after him in 1906, forty-two years from the time of his death. Benjamin Crispin was a founder of Emanuel Church, at Holmesburg, and served for twenty years, as one of its vestrymen, and eight years as accounting warden. He also represented the parish in the Diocesan Convention in 1854–56–58–60. He was one of the originators of and President of the Board of Trustees of the Holmesburg Athenæum Association and Chairman of its building committee, which in 1850 built the town hall called the Athenæum (In this building until 1908 was housed the Thomas Holme Library). In May, 1837, he was elected one of the Trustees of the Lower Dublin Academy and in 1838 its President, an office he held until his death twenty-six years later.

He was founder of the "Crispin Burial Ground Community" and principally instrumental in obtaining a charter for the "Crispin Cemetery Corporation" from the Legislature, while he was a State Senator in 1840, thus perpetuating the title to the heirs of Thomas Holme, under the care of a Board of Trustees, of which he was President. Mr. Crispin was of medium height but of quite stout build. He had a large—what might be called massive—head, though his features were not large. He was deliberate, rather slow in the

manner of expressing himself and firm in his convictions.[106] He married, October 17th, 1816, Maria Foster, daughter of Amos and Eleanor (Thomas) Foster, of Collegeville, near Holmesburg. She was born 1800. They had issue,—Edward T., William, Benjamin Franklin (see below), Eleanor Jane, Thomas Holme, Silas (Colonel U. S. A.), and Charles H.

Colonel Silas Crispin was born at Holmesburg, Philadelphia County, Pa., on September 9th, 1828. He was educated at local schools and the Philadelphia High School. He was admitted as a cadet to the U. S. Military Academy at West Point, N. Y., July 1st, 1846, on appointment of the late Hon. Charles Jared Ingersoll, M.C. He graduated with distinction, being third in his class, on July 1st, 1850, and was then appointed a Brevet Second Lieutenant in the Ordnance Department, U. S. A. He was promoted from time to time, finally attaining the rank of Colonel of Ordnance on August 23rd, 1881. He served at Watervliet Arsenal, New York, Allegheny Arsenal, Pennsylvania, and St. Louis Arsenal, Missouri. He was in command of the Ordnance Depot, Leavenworth, Kansas, in 1860 and 1861.

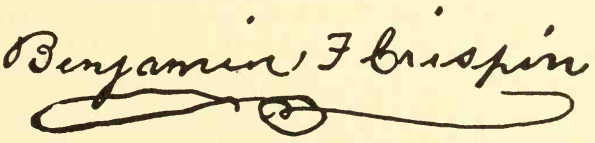
During the Cival War, Colonel Crispin served for some time on the staff of Major-General George B. McClellan, and also in charge of the New York Ordnance Agency as a member of the Ordnance Board, Commandant of the New York Arsenal, and President of the Ordnance Board for five years. After the war he was sent to England by the Government to study the making of ordnance. He was the inventor of a breech-loading cannon called the "Crispin Gun," several of which were made by the government at a cost of $46,000 each. He was Commandant at the Frankford Arsenal Philadelphia, from June 1885 to June 1886, and the Benica Arsenal, California, from June

[106] Samuel C. Willits', MS. History of Lower Dublin Academy, 332.

1st, 1886, until a short time previous to his death, which occurred at New York City on February 28th, 1889. He was buried in Holmesburg, Penna., on March 8th. The interment was in the grounds connected with the Emanuel Protestant Episcopal Church. Colonel Crispin had never married.[107]

Benjamin and Maria Crispin began their married life at "Bellevue," the old Crispin homestead on the Welsh Road, but subsequently removed to Holmesburg, where they continued to reside the remainder of their lives. Benjamin died July 4th, 1864 and Maria died May 13th, 1882; both were buried in the cemetery adjoining the Emanuel Episcopal Church at Holmesburg.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN CRISPIN I.



Benjamin Franklin Crispin was the third son of Benjamin and Maria (Foster) Crispin, and was born in Holmesburg, August 2nd, 1821, and died at his residence, 3258 Chestnut Street, Philadelphia, July 19th, 1898. He was educated at Lower Dublin Academy and other educational institutions. He was President of the Crispin Cemetery Corporation and the Lower Dublin Academy. He married, June 24th, 1845, Elizabeth Glenn, daughter of Robert and Sarah Glenn, of Holmesburg. She was born September 9th, 1825, and died in 1873. They had issue:

1. Benjamin Franklin (see below).

2. Robert Glenn, born at Holmesburg, Philadelphia, February 4th, 1849; received his early education at the Episcopal Academy, Philadelphia; 1872, went to Berwick, Pa., where he became connected with the Jackson

[107] The above sketch was written by the Hon. George Stephenson Clark, Holmesburg, Philadelphia, February 19th, 1901.

and Woodin Manufacturing Company (Now the American Car and Foundry Company). He was after a time a member of the firm of Bowman and Crispin. In 1902 he was elected Teller of the First National Bank of Berwick, which position he held at the time of his death, May 16th, 1913. He married on September 10th, 1873, at Berwick, Frances M., born at Berwick, Pa., December 4th, 1852, daughter of Seth B. and Louise F. (Doane) Bowman, of Berwick, Pa. Robert Glenn Crispin and Frances M. (Bowman) Crispin had issue,—a son born April 12th, 1875, died the same day.

3. William Henry, born Philadelphia, June 11th, 1851, died October 18th, 1924, married May 27th, 1875, Matilda, daughter of John Mitchell, of Philadelphia, in which city they resided for a few years, finally removing to Beverly, N. J., where he lived until a few years before his death. They had issue, Franklin Mitchell Crispin, born in Philadelphia, April 13th, 1876, married 1905, Emma Fowler, daughter of the late Joseph D. Weeks, of Pittsburgh, Pa., at one time Editor of "Iron Age."

4. Elizabeth Glenn Crispin, died unmarried, June 2nd, 1873, aged about eighteen years.

5. Maria Crispin, born August 10th, 1858, in Holmesburg, Philadelphia, married on October 10th, 1883, William Emerson Smith, a distinguished attorney of Berwick, Pa., who died January 7th, 1891. She is now (1929) living at Narberth, Pa. Of their four children, three died in childhood. A daughter, Elizabeth Crispin Smith, born June 26th, 1884, in Berwick, married, on December 9th, 1915, her first cousin, Charles Edwin Crispin, born December 22nd, 1917, in Flushing, L. I. They were divorced on May 22nd, 1922, and Elizabeth Crispin Smith Crispin and her daughter are living in Narberth with Mrs. Maria Crispin Smith. Charles Edwin Crispin, 2nd, married, second, Irene E. Sampson, on June 22nd, 1922. They are now (1929) living in New York City.

6. Charles Edwin Crispin, born at Holmesburg, November 14th, 1856, died in New York City, April 26th, 1926.

7. Louis Crispin, born at Holmesburg, December 30th, 1863, married 1881, Susan Church, of Laurelton, Pa. They lived at Laurelton for a few years after their marriage and then moved to New York City, where Mr. Crispin, who has been head of the Shipping Department of John Wanamaker for a number of years, now resides, his wife having died February 14th, 1912. They had issue, Charles Edwin Crispin, 2d, born at Laurelton, Pa., June 7th, 1882, who married Elizabeth Crispin Smith, daughter of Maria Crispin Smith, as above indicated.

8. Sarah Frances Crispin, born May 1st, 1846, married, June 4th, 1874, the Hon. George S. Clark, of Holmesburg, Philadelphia, who died September 29th, 1923. She is now living in Holmesburg. Mr. Clark was a son of a Civil War veteran, Colonel John Clark, of Holmesburg, and became one of the most prominent citizens of that town. In 1879, George S. Clark purchased the old Crispin homestead known as "Bellevue," which was part of the original plantation owned by Surveyor General Thomas Holme, from whom it had descended to the Hon. Benjamin Crispin. Both Mr. Clark and his wife were very active in all affairs relative to the Holme and Crispin families and were especially concerned with the preservation of the old Crispin Burying Ground, she at one time raising a fund among her relatives for fencing that property. They had issue,—

(1.) John Stephenson Clark, born August 1st, 1875, married Elizabeth, daughter of Jonathan and Mary Frances (Risdon) Rowland of Holmesburg. Mr. Clark succeeded his grandfather, B. F. Crispin, as Trustee of Lower Dublin Academy and Trustee of the Crispin Cemetery Corporation, and now resides in Holmesburg. He had issue one son, John Maxwell

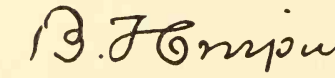
Rodman Clark, born March 23rd, 1905, married June 2nd, 1928, Mary (Craig) Loper, of Holmesburg.

(2.) Benjamin Crispin Clark, born March 28th, 1877, died December 24th, 1878.

(3.) Arthur Douglass Clark, born August 14th, 1883,

(4.) Elizabeth Frances Clark, born September 16th, 1878, now a practicing surgeon in Philadelphia.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN CRISPIN II.



Benjamin Franklin Crispin II., oldest son of Benjamin Franklin Crispin I., was born in Holmesburg, Philadelphia, July 21st, 1847, and died at his residence in Berwick, July 3rd, 1903; received his early education at the Lower Dublin Academy, later at the High Schools of Philadelphia.

He removed to Berwick, Pennsylvania in 1872 and immediately took a deep interest in its affairs. Mr. Crispin was one of the founders of the Berwick Rolling Mills and became connected with the First National Bank of Berwick in 1876, of which institution he was President for many years until the time of his death. He was the founder and first President of the Berwick Electric Light Company, was Vice-President of the Berwick Store Company, Limited, and trustee of the Jackson and Crispin Estate, whose large landed interests occupied much of his time. He was an ardent Republican, always active in that party and was for many years a director of the public schools. Mr. Crispin was a charter member of the Board of Trustees of the Young Men's Christian Association and a trustee of the Methodist Episcopal Church, where he was a regular attendant. He was President of the Mountain Grove Camp Meeting Association and associated himself with those who directed the church.

His long and efficient service to the public schools as director and advisor has been recognized by the presentation to the School District of an athletic field named in his honor. It is known as the Crispin Memorial Athletic Field, and consists of a trifle over 4 acres of land taken from the Borough Farm of the Jackson and Crispin Estate, situated within the borough limits and near the schools. It comprises a separate football and baseball field and also has a mile track. A brick club house has been erected sufficiently large to accommodate two football squads with separate quarters, completely equipped with showers and modern conveniences. A ticket office, Director's Room, and large basement is also provided for. Portable bleachers for the accommodation of 2000 people were purchased so as to make them available for both the football and baseball fields.

He married, June 14th, 1874, Margaret Jackson,[108] who was born November 19th, 1853, daughter of the Honorable Mordecai William Jackson[109] (1815–1894),

---

[108] Margaret Jackson Crispin married, second, on November 6th, 1907, the Rev. Richard H. Gilbert, a presiding elder in the Methodist Episcopal Church, who died on May 17th, 1924.

[109] Benjamin Doane (1770–1825), the maternal grandfather of Mr. Jackson, came to Berwick about 1790 and was the first of the family to settle there. He married, 1793, Hannah Sharpless Iddings, whose father, William Iddings, fought in the Revolutionary War *(Pennsylvania Archives*, 5S. V. 496). He was the son of Elijah and Sarah (Groves) Doane, and died while in the service of the Revolutionary army near Trenton. Benjamin Doane (Elijah[5], Israel[4], Daniel[3], Daniel[2], John[1]) was directly descended from Deacon John Doane, one of the Pilgrim Fathers who came to Plymouth from England in 1629. He rendered distinguished services to that colony, of which he was one of the most influential personages. He was a member of the first Provincial Council of the Plymouth Colony, on which Council sat the celebrated Captain Myles Standish and John Alden, and was "Assistant to the Governor" in 1633. In 1634 he resigned from the Council to become Deacon of the Plymouth Church and in 1645 led in the establishment of the Puritan Church at Eastham of which he was chosen deacon.—A. A. Doane, *Doane Family* (Boston, 1902) 3, 4, 7, 246; Joseph Sharpless, *Sharpless Family* (Philadelphia, 1816), revised by Gilbert Cope, *Sharpless Family* (Philadelphia, 1887), 410–411.

a pioneer in that community, and one of the foremost business men of his day in central Pennsylvania. He[109a] founded, with William Hartman Woodin I., a partnership known as Jackson and Woodin, of Berwick, in 1849, now the American Car and Foundry Company.[110]

[109a] Mr. Jackson's son was General Clarence Gearheart Jackson, born in Berwick, Penna., March 25th, 1842. At the age of fourteen he entered Dickinson Seminary, Williamsport, Pa., where he graduated two years later with the highest honors of his class. He then entered Dickinson College, Carlisle, Pa., where at eighteen, he again led his class at graduation.

On August 2nd, 1862, he enlisted in the Civil War as Second Lieutenant of Co. H, 84th Regiment Pennsylvania Volunteers, at the age of twenty, and became First Lieutenant, January 2nd, 1863. At Chancellorsville, he was captured and taken to Libby Prison, where he remained many months. He, with companions, succeeded in escaping from prison, but was captured and brought back. Later, he was exchanged and appointed to a Captaincy. At the Battle of the Wilderness he was wounded, again taken prisoner and returned to Libby Prison. He was soon, however, included among six hundred officers who were taken to Charleston and placed under the fire of the Federal cannon from Fort Moultrie. They were taken to Columbia from Charleston and placed in a guarded field, with no roof to shelter them, where they dug underground cells for themselves, from which place he was finally exchanged. In 1870 he was appointed Major on the staff of General Osborne, later Colonel on the staff of Governor Hartranft, and was made Quartermaster General by Governor Hoyt in 1879.

General Jackson was one of the influential members and chief advisors of the Republican Party in the management of whose affairs he took a prominent part, representing it as a Delegate in State and National conventions. It was expected that he would receive the gubernatorial nomination of his party at the expiration of Governor Hoyt's term, but this was prevented by his sudden and unexpected death at the age of 38 in 1880. He was one of the substantial business men of Pennsylvania, having been interested in many enterprises. He was Trustee of Dickinson College and of the State Normal School at Bloomsburg. General Jackson's town honored him by naming its Grand Army Post No. 759, the Captain Clarence Gearhart Jackson Post.

[110] In 1860 Jackson and Woodin began the manufacture of coal and freight cars. In 1867–1868 the business was enlarged by building a wheel foundry, a pipe foundry, rolling mills and a large company store. They employed at that time 1300 men. In 1872 he and Mr. Woodin retired in favor of their eldest sons, General Clarence Gearhart Jackson and Clemuel Ricketts Woodin, who incorporated the business into

Mr. Jackson was a charter member and the first President of the First National Bank of Berwick, founder of the Berwick Company Store, now Berwick Store Company, Ltd., and was an Associate Judge in Columbia County, Pennsylvania. He was a trustee of Dickinson College and the State Asylum for the Insane at Danville.

Mr. Jackson married Margaret Gearhart, the great-granddaughter of Captain Jacob Gearhart[111] (1735–1813), of Revolutionary war fame, who had charge of the boats of George Washington troops when they crossed the Delaware. Captain Gearhart's eldest son

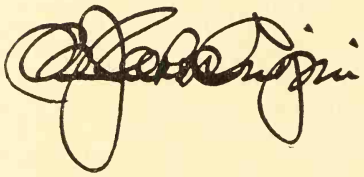
---

the Jackson and Woodin Manufacturing Company. General Jackson died in 1880, and the entire management of the Company devolved upon Mr. Woodin, who conducted its affairs in such an able manner that the growth steadily continued until 1899, when it became one of the most important units of the American Car and Foundry Company, known as its Berwick District. This plant now builds both freight and passenger cars and when working at capacity has employed 6300 men. In November 1907, 2530 freight cars of various types were built in 25 days or an average of 101 cars per day. During this month, 20 steel Interboro coaches were also erected and this department now has a capacity for building one and one-half passenger cars per day. Mr. C. R. Woodin's son, William Hartman Woodin II. is a very prominent and influential business man of New York City and is now President of the American Car and Foundry Company.

[111] Captain Jacob Gearhart came to New Jersey in 1735 from Strasburg, then a city of France, settled in Hunterdon County, N. J., and married, *circa* 1761, Catherine Kline; enlisted, in 1775, when the Revolution broke out and soon became Captain of the 2nd New Jersey Regiment. He was a man of brave and fearless spirit, who stood so high in the confidence of his superior officers that he was chosen by George Washington, with Cap. Van Tenyck, to take charge of the crossing of the Delaware, then filled with floating cakes of ice, on that eventful night of December 25th, 1776, when the Hessian camp of the English was attacked at Trenton. After the crossing had been accomplished the boats were placed in the charge of these two captains who were ordered to destroy them should the expedition prove a failure. Captain Gearhart saw service at Brandywine and Valley Forge, and after the war, *circa* 1785–95, settled in Northumberland County, Pennsylvania.—Office of the Adjutant General, Trenton, New Jersey; *Hist. and Biog. Annals of Columbia and Montour Counties, Pa.*, I. (J. H. Beers and Co., Chicago, 1915), 449, 450.

was Judge Jacob Gearhart[112] (1763–1841), of Northumberland County, a very influential man in Pennsylvania. Benjamin Franklin and Margaret (Jackson) Crispin had issue, Mordecai Jackson, Clarence Gearhart and Helen Jean, for accounts of whom see below.

MORDECAI JACKSON CRISPIN



Born at Berwick, Pennsylvania, May 13th, 1875, Mordecai Jackson Crispin was graduated from Berwick High Schools, 1892; then he entered Princeton College (now University) and was graduated from this institution in 1896, with the degree of Bachelor of Arts. He has always retained his legal residence in Berwick, but removed to New York City in 1900; he has been President of the First National Bank of Berwick since 1909 and President of the Crispin Cemetery Corporation since 1924. He was General Manager and Treasurer of the United States Metal

[112] Judge Jacob Gearhart, son of Captain Jacob Gearhart, entered his father's regiment in 1777, at the age of 14 years, and served until the end of the war, having become an ensign. He married, *circa* 1792, Margaret Runkle, of Hunterdon County, New Jersey, and followed his father to Northumberland County, Pennsylvania, about 1795. He was a very ardent and prominent Democrat, his house being the meeting place of men of importance the country over. It was there that Andrew Jackson, while President of the United States, requested Simon Cameron, then United States Senator from Pennsylvania, to get that delegation committed to the support of Martin Van Buren for President. Here also came Francis Asbury, the first Bishop of the Methodist Episcopal Church in this country, who preached in Judge Gearhart's barn. He was a Colonel of the Pennsylvania Militia, and a Presidential Elector in 1828 for Andrew Jackson. He was very fastidious in his dress, conforming to the colonial style, always wearing a ruffled shirt, swallow tail coat, and white fur top hat.—Ben. van D. Fisher, *The Runkle Family*, New York, 1899) 46, 64, 65; Department of the Interior, Bureau of Pensions, S.F.3392.

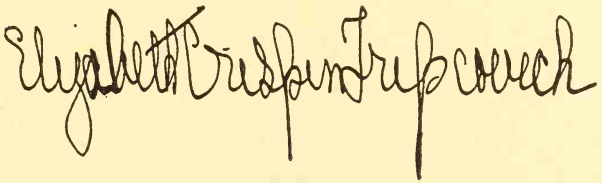
Arms of M. Jackson Crispin

Confirmed to him by the College of Arms in England

Quarterly of eight: 1 and 8, Erminois, three lions rampant azure, armed and langued purpure, *for Crispin;* 2, Sable, a lion rampant or, billetty sable, a bordure or, *for Crispin* (Tillieres) ; 3, Fusilly, gules and argent, on a chief of the second two lions passant combatant of the first, *for Crispin* (Bec-Crispin) ; 4, Gules, a griffin segreant or, on a chief of the second two pallets of the first, *for Crispin* (Devonshire) ; 5, Argent, two bendlets cotised between as many martlets sable, in the fesse point a cinquefoil gules, *for Bradshaw;* 6, Argent, a chevron azure, between three chaplets gules, within a bordure sable with ten roundels, *for Holme;* 7, Argent, on a fesse cotised sable three plates, *for Penn. Crest*—A demi-griffin erased with wings addorsed azure. *Motto—Dum clavum rectum teneam.* Crispin heraldic badge (not shown here) : A seven-headed hydra rampant vert.

and Manufacturing Company of New York City from 1900 to 1916, after which time he was associated with the American Car and Foundry Company in New York, until 1922, when he retired from active business. In 1916 he was a delegate from the 16th Congressional District of Pennsylvania to the Republican National Convention held in Chicago which nominated Charles Evans Hughes for President. He is a life member of the Board of Directors and President of the Crispin Memorial Athletic Field, of Berwick.

He married, first, Marie Brockway, June 7th, 1900, born at Beach Haven, Pennsylvania, July 2nd, 1874; died, New York City, October 27th, 1907. She was the daughter of Frank Eugene Brockway,[113] of Beach Haven, Pennsylvania, by his wife Cora, *née* Campbell, and was graduated from the Berwick High School and the Woman's College at Baltimore.



They had issue, one daughter, Elizabeth Brockway Crispin, born January 3rd, 1905, at 17 East 11th Street, New York City, educated at Miss Marshall's School,

[113] Frank Eugene Brockway is a Civil War veteran, having been a Second Lieutenant in Battery F, First Regiment Pennsylvania Reserve Volunteers Light Artillery. His brother, Charles Brockway, a Captain in the same Regiment, in the hand to hand fighting at Gettysburg after the color-bearer had been killed grabbed the flagstaff shot off just below the colors. A "Louisiana Tiger" attempted to steal the horse of the color-bearer, but before he could draw his gun, Captain Brockway killed him with a stone. Their father, Beckwith Brockway, was born in New London, Conn., where his family had lived since their arrival in America. He removed from this locality to Luzerne County, Penna. and was Colonel of a Regiment of Militia at Berwick. The latter part of his life was spent at Harrisburg, Penna., where he was a State Librarian.

Briarcliff Manor, N. Y., Ely Court, Greenwich, Connecticut, Holton Arms School, Washington, D. C., and the Harcum School, Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania; was married, January 30th, 1929, in St. Patrick's Cathedral, New York City, by Monsignor Lavelle, to Oliviero Tripcovich, of Trieste, Italy, younger son of the late Commendatore Diadato Tripcovich and Countess Gilda Tripcovich-Pozza. Mr. Tripcovich was graduated from the Royal University of Rome, and is a partner in the Tripcovich Shipping Company, of Trieste, in which city he and his wife now reside.

M. Jackson Crispin married, second, Erma Marchant, April 3rd, 1916, born July 10th, 1888, daughter of James Dwight Marchant, of Baltimore, Maryland, by his wife, Nannie *née* Mathews, of Mathews County, Virginia.

Clarence Gearhart Crispin, second son of Benjamin Franklin Crispin and Margaret (Jackson) Crispin, was born September 27th, 1879, was graduated from Wyoming Seminary, Wyoming, Pennsylvania, in 1898, and from Cornell University in 1902, with the degree of Mechanical Engineer. He retains his legal residence in Berwick, although is now living in New York City. He is President of Berwick Water Company, Berwick Store Company, Ltd., Multiplex Manufacturing Company and Vice-President of the First National Bank of Berwick. He is executor of the Estate of Frederick H. Eaton, Treasurer and Trustee of the Crispin Cemetery Corporation, and a life member of the Board of Directors of the Crispin Memorial Athletic Field, of Berwick.

He married, October 19th, 1904, Mae Lovely Eaton, born March 1st, 1892, daughter of Frederick Heber Eaton, deceased, a man very prominent in the business world of New York City, where he was a Director in many institutions. Mr. Eaton was President of the Jackson and Woodin Manufacturing Company of Ber-

wick, from 1896 to 1899 and President of the American Car and Foundry Company from 1901 until the time of his death in 1916.[114]

They had issue: (1.) Benjamin Eaton Crispin, born in Berwick, Pennsylvania, October 10th, 1905, married, September 23rd, 1929, in Syracuse, New York, Laura Tenney Klock, daughter of Mabie Crouse Klock, of Syracuse, by his first wife, Nannie *née* Petersilia; and (2.) Frederick Eaton Crispin, born in Berwick, Pennsylvania, September 1, 1906, married September 18th, 1929, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Sara Louise Gwinner, daughter of Edward William Gwinner, of Pittsburgh, by his wife, Elizabeth *née* Minnemeyer. Both sons were educated at St. Paul's School, Concord, New Hampshire, and Princeton University; they are now in business with their father in New York City, and on January 8th, 1929, were elected directors of the First National Bank of Berwick. They are also life members of the Board of Directors of the Crispin Memorial Athletic Field.

Helen Jean Crispin Owens, born January 11th, 1886, at Berwick, Pennsylvania; educated, Berwick Schools, National Park Seminary, Washington, D. C., Merrill Van Lear School, New York City; married, June 8th, 1910, at Berwick, Pennsylvania, Charles Beland Owens, of Germantown, Kentucky, son of Theodoric Owens and Elizabeth Norris Owens. They removed to Toronto, Canada, after their marriage, where they are now living, and have issue,—Margaret Crispin Owens, born May 17th, 1911, and Elizabeth Crispin Owens born November 4th, 1914.

---

[114] Mr. Frederick H. Eaton was a director in the following institutions, —The American Agricultural Chemical Company, American Beet Sugar Company, Columbia Trust Company, Seaboard National Bank, Chairman of the Board of the American Car and Foundry Export Company, and a trustee of the Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York.

ERRATA

First part of Captain William Crispin article, in April issue:

Page 98, footnote 6, for *Vol. 12 (Paris, 1763)* read *Vol. X. (Paris, 1756).*

Second part of Captain William Crispin article, in July issue:

Page 200 line 4, for *Millard* read *Hilliard.*

Page 200 line 9, for *Jones* read *Johnson.*

ADDENDA

First part of Captain William Crispin article, in April issue:

Page 98, line 22: Gilbert Crispin I. is called Count of Brionne by the Benedictine Monks of the Congregation of St. Maur, *Histoire littéraire de la France*, Paris, 1756, Vol. X. p. 192, by George Lipcomb *County of Buckingham*, London, 1847, Vol. III. p. 466, and by John Mabillon, *Annals of the Order of Saint Benedict, etc.*, Vol. IV. (Paris, 1707) pages 391 and 399. Sylvanus Urban, *Gentleman's Magazine*, London, January 1832, Vol. CII, p. 27, and James Anderson, *Royal Genealogies*, London, 1734, p. 671, table 398, made him the son of Ansgothus Crispinus, son of Crispina, the daughter of Rollon, 1st Duke of Normandy, and Grimaldi 1st, Prince of Monaco, and both of whom gave him the titles of Baron of Bec and Baron of Tillières. William of Jumièges, Jean Marx's edition, *Gesta Normannorum Ducum*, Paris, 1914, book 7. II (5). p. 117, and *Orderic Vitalis* (August Le Prévost's edition, Paris, 1852, Vol. IV. p. 369) call him Gilbert Crispin, châtelain of Tillières. Howbeit, he had the custody of Tillières *circa* 1042, when he defended the castle against Henry I., King of France.—Freeman's *Norman Conquest*, Vol. II. p. 133; Jumièges, opus citus, book 7. II (5) p. 117; *Orderic Vitalis*, opus citus, Vol. IV page 369.

Page 99, lines 4 and 6: William Crispin 1st and Gilbert Grispin II. with Robert are named in J. A. Giles' edition of *"Beati Lanfranci Miraculum quo beata Maria subvenit Willelmo Crispino Seniori, ubi de Nobili Crispinorum generi agitur"* (Paris, 1844, Vol. I. p. 348)—"The Miracle by which Blessed Mary came to the aid of William Crispin Sr., wherein the noble line of the Crispins is discussed" and also by many other historians, as the children of Gilbert Crispin 1st and Gonnor, sister of Foulke d'Aunou the Elder, and this must be taken as authoritative. Robert, the younger brother, after wandering through many countries, went to Constantinople where he acquired a high position and favor at court and was poisoned through jealousy by the Greeks.—J. A. Giles. opus citus, Paris, 1844, Vol. I. p. 341.

There has been naturally much discussion regarding the correct titles of William Crispin I. and Gilbert Crispin II.; the author chose to designate them as shown on Page 99 of the article for the reasons there given, substantiated by the references quoted. It it very difficult to be absolutely positive about matters of this kind at that early date, but it can be stated beyond any question of doubt that William Crispin I.

ERRATA

Page 304, delete footnote.

Page 308, line 31, concerning Charles Edwin Crispin, etc., read *Charles Edwin Crispin II. They had issue one daughter, Leonora Crispin, born December 22nd, 1917, in Flushing, Long Island.*

On print facing page 314, change the second line of the inscription to read, *Granted and confirmed to him.*

Page 317, line 6, concerning Benjamin Eaton Crispin, for *September 23rd, 1929,* read *September 25th, 1929.*

Line 10, concerning Frederick Eaton Crispin, for *September 1st, 1906,* read *September 17th, 1906.*

Page 318, under ADDENDA, line 4, for *Lipcomb* read *Lipscomb.*

Line 11, for *Grimaldi* read *Grimaldus.*

was Vicomte du Vexin (see J. A. Giles, opus citus, vol. I. p. 342), Seigneur de Neaufles, de Livarot, and de Blangy (Porée, page 99 of article) and that Gilbert Crispin II. was Seigneur de Tillières *(Orderic Vitalis,* opus citus, Vol. IV. p. 369). This is under investigation at the present time, with other points pertaining to this early branch of the family by that learned scholar and historian, the venerable Chanoine Porée, as well as by René Herval, whose book "*Falaise, Cité Normande*" has just been published, by Professor Leonce Macary, of the College of Falaise, and by Paul Gentil of Tillières.

The "*Miraculum quo beata,*" etc., is the most authoritative document on the origin of the Crispin family, and was written either by Gilbert Crispin (see Preface to Giles' edition of the "*Miraculum,*" already quoted), Monk of Bec, Abbot of Westminster Abbey *(circa* 1046–1117; J. Armitage Robinson, Dean of Wells, in *Gilbert Crispin Abbot of Westminster,* London, 1911, page 1) and son of William Crispin I. or by Milo Crispin *(circa* 1075–1150), Monk of Bec, leader of the choir at that Abbey for many years and a contemporary writer of Gilbert Crispin, Abbot, or by them jointly, both of whose works are considered among the best of their period.—*Histoire Littéraire de la France,* by the Benedictine Monks of the Congregation of St. Maur, Paris, Vol. XI. The identity of Milo Crispin is unknown, excepting that he was a descendant of William Crispin I. and must not be confused with Milo Crispin, lord of Wallingford.

The "*Miraculum*" states (Giles, opus citus, p. 342):

". . . et ideo dux Normannorum Willelmus qui postea rex Anglo-"rum fuit, praedictum Willelmum Crispinum, quia erat probatissimus "in re militari, collocavit in castro Melfia . . . et Viecasini vicecomitatum "jure haereditario custodiendum, et filius ejus post eum sicut usque hodie "videmus." (William Duke of Normandy who later became King of England, assigned the above William Crispin, who had a great reputation as a soldier, to take charge of a camp at Melfia *(i.e.* Neaufles) . . . and to guard the viscounty of Vilcasinus *(i.e.* Vexin) by hereditary right, and his son after him we see holding the same up to now.)

Page 99, line 7: The identity of Milo Crispin, favoured warrior at the Battle of Hastings, a Domesday Tenant in Capite, and the recipient of many honours and lands from the Conqueror, has not been definitely established, although J. R. Planché (London, 1874, Vol. I, p. 94), the *Gentleman's Magazine* (London, January 1832, Vol. CII) and James Anderson *(Royal Genealogies,* London, 1734) make him a brother of William Crispin, I. and Gilbert Crispin, II. and the author followed this genealogy on page 2 of the April number of this article. Milo most certainly was a direct descendant of Gilbert Crispin I., but whether he was a brother or half brother of William Crispin I. and Gilbert Crispin II., or a son of one of them is a question. The Reverend J. Armitage Robinson, Dean of Westminster Abbey, author of *Gilbert Crispin, Abbot* (page 17) names him son of Gilbert Crispin II., but does not give the reason why he thinks this is so. Milo married, *circa* 1084, Matilda, daughter and heiress of Robert d'Oilly, one of Duke William's chief commanders at Hastings, who gave to d'Oilly in marriage Aldrith,

daughter and heiress of Wigo de Wallingford. After the death of d'Oilly, the Honour of Wallingford with vast possessions passed to Milo Crispin. The castle of Wallingford was at that period the strongest and most important fortress in all England. Lady Matilda manifestly must have been born after 1066, consequently when she married Milo Crispin, *circa* 1084, she was not more than 18 years old. If Milo was the full brother of William I. and Gilbert II. he was undoubtedly at the time of his marriage between 46 and 60; on the other hand, if he was the son of either William or Gilbert, his age would have been about 40, assuming that he was 20 years of age at the Battle of Hastings. He lived until 1107 (George Lipcomb, *"History and Antiquities of the County of Buckingham*, London, 1847, Vol. I., pp. 17 and 18), on which date he died Councillor to the King. Therefore, it would seem logical that he was their half brother or son rather than their full brother.

Page 99, line 11: The date of the death of Gilbert Crispin, Abbot of Westminster, is given as 1117, for he is known to have signed documents as late as that year. His tomb, however, in Westminster Abbey bears the date of 1114. J. Armitage Robinson, Dean of Westminster, thinks this inscription was placed on his tomb years, possibly centuries after his death, which would account for the inaccuracy.

Thomas Amory, Chief Commissioner of the Navy in Ireland, in 1666, wrote a letter to the Secretary of the Duke of Ormond, Lord Lieutenant of Ireland, a portion of which reads as follows:

"S^{r}

The Rumo^{rs} of the ffrench Invasion and some Preparations making ag^{t} them, hath created some active thoughts in my flegmatique nature; How agreeable they may be to better Judgments I know not, but bec., they are cheape, easy & probable I shall expose them to His Grace Censure w^{ch} is Apointing some persons to prepare fire-ships in Kinsale Harbo^{r} (& the same may perhaps be thought fit for other harbo^{rs} also as Corke, Waterford, Galway &c). The manner of doing it I have desired my agent Capt. Crispin to specify in the inclosed paper, and I suppose he wilbe the fittest person yo^{u} can have for preparing & managing thereof wherein my Endeavo^{rs} shall not be wanting if His Grace comand it. . . . I am now going for Kerry where I have not beene 11 days these 17 months & shal post thence If any com^{ds} follow mee: I am

S^{r} Yo^{r} humble serv^{t}

Tho. Amory

Corke 17 Jan^{ry} 1666 (1666/7).

Any ship that hath sailes to yard may be made a fire ship in 12 houres time, but they should laye at the Block house alwayes in a readiness.

Addressed: To the honb^{le} Sr George Lane Kt.
Sec^{ry} to his Grace the Lord Lieut
of Irelande
for his maj^{ty} service
present
Dublin."

October 25th, 1720. Administration of the estate of James Crispin, late of the parish of Stepney, Middlesex, and of the merchant ship "Tibington Galley," was granted to Elizabeth Crispin, the relict.

The entry is marked "Pts," signifying that the intestate died at some place out of England, but there is nothing in it to indicate the actual place.—Somerset House, P.C.C., Admon. Act Book for 1720, folio 212b.

Will of Elizabeth Crispin, of St. Nicholas, Deptford, widow. My daughter Elizabeth Harris, wife of Captain John Harris, of St. Christopher, commonly called St. Kitts, in the West Indies, to have a large diamond ring, silverware, etc. My grand-daughter Sarah Payne, a silver mug. My grand-daughter Sarah Crispin, a diamond ring. My niece Sarah Cooper a diamond ring. Residue of estate to my son Joseph Crispin, of "Patoxholine" (?), in Maryland, and my aforesaid son-in-law John Harris, of St. Kitts. John Chase, of Richmond, Surrey, to be executor.

Witnesses: Rebecca Debitt, Dated 12 January 1750/1
Ann Weaver,
Edward Moore. Elizabeth Crispin X

Proved 8 February 1750/1, by John Chase, esquire.

This is undoubtedly the will of the widow of James Crispin. In any event, she was the mother of Elizabeth (Crispin) Harris, of St. Kitts, and of Joseph Crispin, here described as of Maryland.

It will be seen that Elizabeth appears to have had a daughter who had married a ——— Payne.—Will at Somerset House, P.C.C., 40 Busby. 1751.

St. Annes, Sandy Point, St. Kitts, West Indies. Marriage, 1734, January 30, Richard Crispin and Sarah Fahie, by license.

This is the Richard Crispin referred to on page 202 of the second part of the Captain William Crispin article, in the July issue. The family of Fahie was of some standing in the island.

October 26th, 1630, Randall Bradshaw and Rachell Penne (By licence of the Vicar General), St. Gregory by St. Paul, London, Marriage Register, 1618–1635 (date of document)

The transition of Bradshaw's name from Raphe (Ralph) to Randall may arise from the possibility of the license having been in Latin, in which case the name would appear as Radulphus, accordingly the clerk, very much after the manner of his kind, reading as Randulphus, of which name Randall and Randle were accepted forms.

Ralph Crispin was the second child of Captain William and Rebecca (Bradshaw) Crispin, born probably at the home of his grandfather, Ralph Bradshaw, of Pendleton, Eccles Parish, near Manchester, Lancashire, England, whither doubtless the mother had gone during the absence of the father with the fleet in the West Indies; for the registers of Eccles Parish contain this entry: "Raph son of William Crispyne Gent baptized at Eccles 7 Feb 1654–5"

Other records from the same registers: "1635 July 28. Sara daughter of Raphe Bradshaw, gent. buried." "1667. October 30. M^{r}. Ralph Bradshaw of ye Pole, buried."

THE FRENCH RACIAL STRAIN IN COLONIAL PENNSYLVANIA.

By WAYLAND FULLER DUNAWAY, Ph.D.,
The Pennsylvania State College

The history of the French settlers in provincial Pennsylvania presents peculiar difficulties in narration because, unlike that of the English, the Germans, and the Scotch-Irish, it is concerned with a minor racial element whose story is somewhat obscure. This difficulty is increased by the fact that they did not, as in the case of the major racial elements or even of smaller strains like the Welsh and Swedes, settle in a compact and clearly defined community. In fact, nowhere in Pennsylvania did they constitute a dominant racial group imposing their language and customs on a given section of the province, but were promptly and completely merged with their neighbors wherever they happened to locate. They brought no new religious sect to the colony, but united freely with those already present. Their history is not that of mass settlement, nor even that of small communities, but rather that of the impress of individual character and influence upon the larger racial elements by which they were surrounded. In a few cases they settled in small groups, but never in such numbers as to constitute an organized community with a distinctive and continuous history. Their influence upon the progress of the province was considerable, however, and was out of all proportion to their numbers. This was due to the fact that they were a selected group characterized by superior moral and intellectual attainments and by marked economic aptitude.

No attempt has been made hitherto to describe the French settlers as a distinct racial strain in the heterogeneous population of colonial Pennsylvania. Staple-

MAY 7 1931

BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY

3 9999 08558 194 8